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GOKULAM

THE Magazine for Children

TRAVEL Special

S.Sujith Kumar,
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MHSS, Karur.

GOKULAM

THE Magazine for Children

April 2010 Vol.XXII, No.10

KALKI GROUP
HOUSE of QUALITY

Of all created things the loveliest.
And most divine are children.
-William Canton

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A JOURNEY TO LEARN..!

(A Long Story)

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THE Magazine for Children

Dear Reader,

"April Fool!" shouted my classmate. I felt a slight pressure on my back and hastily removed my school bag to find a big "A.F." stamped on it! My friend had carved an A.P. in mirror-image format on one half of a potato and had used a stamp pad to ink the same! This was on first of April long long ago. All of us would have experienced such pranks year after year on 1st April and would have made fools of others too.

Once I was travelling by train and when it stopped at a junction, a well dressed lady approached me and said, "I have to pay the ticket examiner excess fare. I gave him a five hundred rupee note but he says he has no change. Can you please give me change?" I counted five one hundred rupee notes and gave them to her. "One second," she said, "I'll get the five hundred rupee note from the ticket examiner." She turned and walked away. That was the last I saw of her or my money!

Such incidents go to prove that one can become an April fool even during other months. But if you learn a lesson through the experience, it may be well worth the loss suffered by you. "Never trust strangers," I told myself on that day and I've not been cheated by any one since then. A student scores poor marks in class tests but continues to postpone studying, thinking that the annual exam is far away and he can catch up! Well, he is fooling himself.

So, enjoy being fooled on April first; laugh it off! Be alert on other days, throughout the year.

- Edito

Speak Out

Everybody should Travel!

We all learn a lot in school, but the knowledge is predominantly theoretical. This kind of learning is useful to score marks in examinations. When students complete their schooling, they are still immature, lack in self confidence and are unable to handle real life situations. Travel plays a major role in solving this problem. We can learn a lot by travelling to different places of the world.

Travelling teaches us about different cultures, people's dressing, their food habits, manners, their language and much more. We may like these strange customs but sometimes we may not like what we come across. But then, this is a lesson in tolerance. We learn to accept other cultures. Travelling may not be comfortable nor will it be safe. But we soon accept difficulties as a part of life and learn to overcome them. We become better equipped to handle various situations.

Large plantations, huge factories, tall mountains, beautiful sculptures, ancient monuments…as travellers, we see for ourselves what we read in books. We come across different kinds of people, we watch them work, listen to them speak. We may even stay with them and share their meals. We get used to the vagaries of weather. We may suffer a little hardship in the process, but we learn much. We become more suited for life which is seldom a bed of roses. Columbus, Marco Polo, Magellan, Captain Cook – all have gone down in history for their daring travels. For travel leads to discovery, and discovery to knowledge.

- Tabreez Ahamed,
Std.VII, Padua High School,
Mangalore

ECO-TOURISM

Rampriya Badrinarayan

INTRODUCTION

Tourism, though existing for centuries, has seen a sudden spurt today due to improved means of travel and communication. It has become a popular leisure activity and has contributed a lot towards the development of an economy. Infact, some island nations like Mauritius, Hawaii and Bermuda thrive on tourism. While the advantages of tourism are numerous, it also has some negative impacts on the environment and its inhabitants. Large scale destruction of forests and natural areas to build hotels and shops, depletion and contamination of ground water, plastic and other artificial waste accumulation, and endangering of local animal and

human population are becoming some of the major drawbacks of tourism. To offset this negative impact, 'Eco-Tourism' was developed in the 1990's by leading environmentalists and conservationists.

MEANING AND PRINCIPLES

Eco-tourism involves travelling to tranquil and unpolluted natural areas. The main purpose behind this activity is to learn about these areas and also work towards preserving and conserving them. It requires a traveller to be well informed about the place he is planning to visit and also contribute towards the development and welfare of local people.

Those who participate in eco-tourism should follow the following principles and guidelines set by The International Eco-tourism Society:

- Minimum impact on the local environment
- Attempt to build awareness and respect towards local culture and populace

• Direct financial benefits for the local people rather than the middleman like hoteliers and tour companies

• Contribute towards conservation

ON AN ECO-TRIP

A traveller should be aware of the local news and current events while undertaking an eco-tour. He should learn to speak a few basic words of the local language (thank you, sorry, hello, etc). In nutshell, a tourist has to approach his eco-destination with the desire to learn and observe rather than just watch and enjoy.

✈ All tourists need to respect local traditions and etiquette. They should remember that they are just visitors. There are many customs and traditions which may be different to their own but not inferior. Tourists need to wear respectable clothing that do not offend the local culture and also request permission before taking photos. Eco-tourists need to set an example to other tourists by their behaviour and deportment.

✈ All visitors should avoid unnecessary display of wealth. Jewellery and accessories should be minimal. According to experts they create a barrier between the visitors and local community and inhibit interactions. Tourists should not hand out sweets, coins, cloth or other items as they serve to corrupt the local populace and create a begging mentality where none existed before.

✈ The resources in an area visited by tourists are under a great deal of pressure already. An eco-tourist should try to reduce the personal consumption of items like water, food and transport. For example, a luxury hotel in the middle of a forest takes more resources to build and maintain than a small inn. It is better to opt for the latter. Tourists should not hunt endangered or threatened species or harvest rare plants for

This creates job opportunities for the locals who in turn will work towards preserving their environment and desist from destructive habits like logging, hunting or poaching. It will also prevent them from immigrating to major cities.

consumption or as a leisure activity.

✈ An eco-tourist must aim to have minimum impact on the environment due to his visit. The 'Leave No Trace' rule should be strictly followed. Not only should he/she not throw rubbish but should also remove litter that others left behind. Plucking of plants, leaves and flowers is a strict no-no. It is necessary to be aware of local endangered or threatened species so as not to purchase souvenirs made from their skin, feathers etc. This is illegal too!

✈ Tourists must use local transportation, guides, inns, restaurants and markets.

✈ Eco-tourism should not end with the tour. Eco-tourists need to follow through the commitment to conservation, in everyday life. They must share their experiences with others to foster a greater understanding of the world.

(Source : Internet)

The World's first space tourist was an US engineer and entrepreneur, Dennis Tito. He paid a whopping twenty million dollars for his eight day trip on Soyuz TM-32, the International Space Station in April, 2001. He performed several scientific experiments in orbit.

- S.Nagarajan, Std.XI, Govt. Boys Hr. Sec. School, Erode

The Anonymous Letter

"Bye," said Chittu to his friends, after a game of football. He reached home and was about to ring the door bell when he spied a stack of letters in the post box. He went to pick them up…three for his father, one for his mother, a telephone bill and…

"Hey! What's this, a letter addressed to me?" Chittu looked in surprise at the letter. He had never ever got a letter before.

His mother opened the door as he was examining it.

"Hi…come on in. Thanks for checking the post," she said putting out her hand for the letters.

Chittu handed over all the envelopes except one, and to his mother's questioning look, answered, "This is for me, mom."

"Wow! That's great. Who is it from?" she queried.

"I don't know. Please, may I go to the terrace and open it?" he asked eagerly.

His mother nodded her head laughingly. Chittu ran up the stairs, switched on the terrace light and turned over the letter excitedly to find the sender's name. But no name was written on the envelope. With eager hands he tore open the cover, pulled out the letter and started reading its contents.

Dear Chittu,

There is a SPECIAL GIFT waiting for you in your backyard. Just climb up the mango tree and look inside the hollow of the branch. You will find your next clue there.

Anonymous

Chittu was surprised and puzzled too! Who was the writer of this letter? What was the special gift? Why didn't the writer sign his or her name? Though these questions were confusing him, he decided to target the main point in the letter, the 'Special Gift'. It was past six 'o' clock and his mother would definitely not allow him into the

;arden. What should he do? Curiosity got the better of him and e quietly walked into the garden and limbed the tree. It was quite easy s he had climbed it hundreds of imes. He put his hand into the ollow and yes, there was another nvelope. He grabbed it, clambered own and ran into his room.

Dear Chittu,

I suppose you have read he first letter by now and are urious to get your hands on he gift. Ok, I will tell you where I have kept your ift. Dig a couple of eet just near the nango tree and you vill find your surprise ift. Happy Hunting!

Anonymous

Chittu could ardly sleep that ight. Getting up at am the next day, e grabbed a pade, ran to the arden and started igging furiously. le dug here, there nd everywhere oping to find his gift but alas, it was just not there. He was tired and sweaty, and his arms were aching too. His initial enthusiasm was long gone. He chucked the spade in a corner and walked in to clean up and have his breakfast. At the breakfast table he noticed his mother grinning widely.

"What's up mother? Anything funny?" Chittu enquired irritated.

"April Fool! Did you forget that today is first of April? I played a trick on you by sending you an anonymous letter. You fell into the trap easily. And I also got a pit dug for my vegetable garden. Ha..ha..ha," she laughed aloud.

Chittu sat stock still and stared at his mother. Yes, she was right. It was the first of April and he had got fooled by her!

- V.R.Chittaranjan, Std.VIII, Oxford Sr. Sec. School, Bengalooru

'HEALTH

I loved reading the 'Health Special' (February) issue very much. The article 'Nutty Affair' was very well written, and the other articles on health were informative too. Please publish more stories.

- Rushab.R.Bhandari, Std.X, Rotary High School, Ranebennur

(Dear Rushab, this issue has a long story, a short one, a serial story as well as a picture story! - Editor)

Kudos to the special issue "Health Ahoy" (February). We loved the various articles related to health. Merely an absence of disease does not mean one is healthy. Changes are to be made in our life style to accommodate the trends of modern life.

- Krutarth & Mansi Vinod Dixit, R.H.Kapadia New High School, Ahmedabad

The February issue was very informative. It rightly proved that 'Health is Wealth'!

- J.Aadhikesava Siva Murugan, Std.IX, Anita Methodist MHSS, Chennai

Gokulam is a fantastic, amazing, humorous, marvelous, awesome an great magazine. It has improved m vocabulary a lot. Can we contribut all our articles in a single envelope

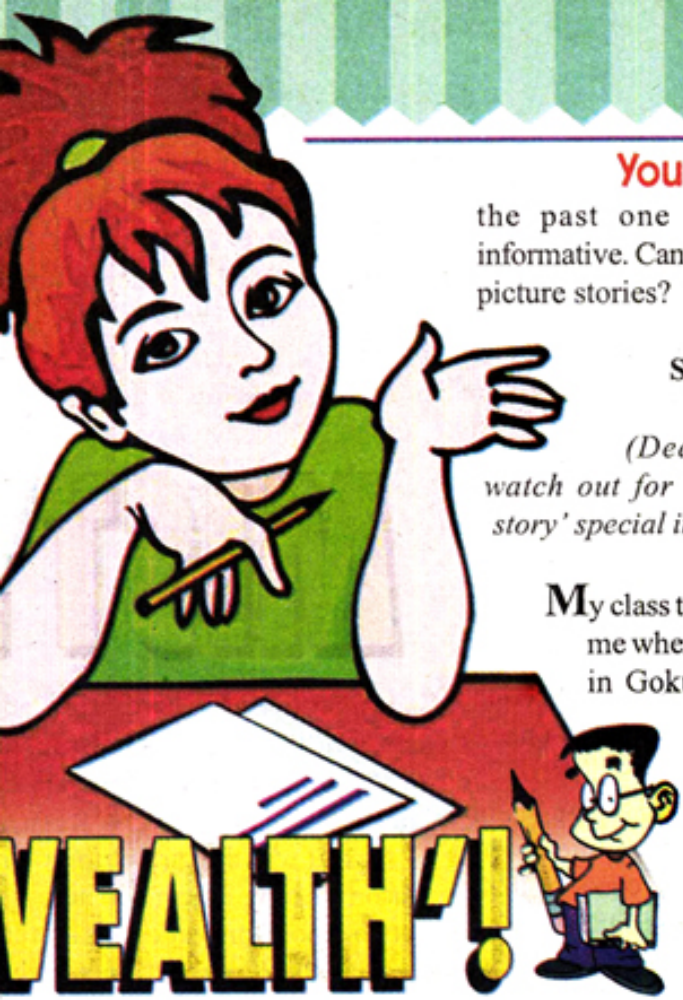
- Roshini.R.Zunjarwac Std.VI, New Horizon Publi School, Bengaloor

(Dear Roshini, we accep different articles in a singl envelope, just ensure that they ar all written on separate sheets o paper and carry your complet details. - Editor)

I am a regular reader of Gokular and find it very interesting. I like the article 'Sound of Music' in th February issue. I am proud to sa that I am a reader as well as contributor to Gokulam.

- Sadhvika Ramji, Std.IX Crea Children's Academ MHSS, Trich

I am a great fan of Gokulam an love to read it regularly. My dad wa also an avid reader during h school days. Please devote one issu



the past one year. It is very informative. Can you add some more picture stories?

- S.Bhuvanesvari, Std.V, Holy Angels' MHSS, Salem

*(Dear Bhuvanesvari, watch out for Gokulam 'picture story' special in June. –**Editor**)*

My class teacher was proud of me when she saw my article in Gokulam. I have also received the copy of Gokulam and my prize money promptly. Hats off to Gokulam and its editorial team!

- A.Aishwarya, Std.IX, St.Joseph's Convent, Coonoor

o science and astronomy. I would ove to contribute to the same.

- Harini, Std.VI, New Baldwin Residential School, Bengalooru

*(Dear Harini, we are happy o note that Gokulam is your family' magazine. We will efinitely look into your request. **Editor**)*

I have been reading Gokulam for

I am a great fan of Gokulam and the special issues are really awesome. Can you please publish a poster of the Disney movie 'Camp Rock'?

- Utpanna Hota, Std.VIII, DAV Public School, Chandrasekharpur

CHAPTER THREE

Story so far :

Padma, along with other new comers gather at the assembly hall where they are greeted by their principal, and also meet Siddarth, Badri and Sadil who happen to be in the same class. They all attend classes excitedly as it is their first day at Misty Heights residential school. Harish, a childhood friend, in a senior class, ignores Padma who is miffed with his attitude. The junior students get ready for their first interaction with the seniors. Now read on...

The venue for the senior-junior meet was changed from the sports room to the hockey cum football ground. The freshers were asked to proceed there after their classes. The juniors gathered at the ground which was the farthest from the main school building.

A band of seniors arrived, led by the prefects George and Kokila. Ofcourse, Harish was there too. The prefects came forward to welcome the new set and asked them to introduce themselves and display their talents. Sid, Sad and Bad, stepped forward and performed a action re-play of a Quidditch matc from the Harry Potter series. Th other boys followed suit and in n time the entire ground had Potte frenzy kids zip-zapping an hollering at the top of their voices.

"Looks like we have a bunch o

MISTY

super sportive boys here," spoke th surprised head boy. "I am sure yo will be an asset to our football an hockey teams."

Next it was the girls' turn. "Th reason we have assembled here is t get to know one another better, Kokila, the head girl encourage them.

Some of the girls hesitated whi others jumped at the first chan to sing and dance. Mau was a enthusiastic participant but Padm had retreated to the background. Sh didn't want anybody to spot her. B no sooner the last batch of the gir had finished, than she heard h name being called out. It was Haris

"May I now present to you t

Geeta Canpadee

ighly talented singer
admalakshmi Venkataraman," he
nnounced, and she was yanked to
ıe forefront.

Padma was boiling. How dare he
ıake an announcement like that
ithout her permission! Ofcourse
ıe was talented but...

Serial Story

"I…I don't know what to sing," she stammered.

"Why don't we sing together?" It was Badri again to her rescue. "How about Jack and Jill?"

Padma smiled gratefully and the twosome started the nursery rhyme, and very soon all the juniors and seniors had gone back to their

IEIGHTS

kindergarten days.

"Well, this was the most jovial sene-juno meet ever. You can feel free to approach us for any kind of help, anytime," Kokila resumed. "And, you can call me Coke."

"And me, Geo." George added. "One more thing…this is about the

jungle adjoining our school. The students are strictly prohibited from entering it. But I'm sure you will be curious to know more about it. Well, in that case, I am ready to help you out."

The students dispersed, heading back to their respective hostels.

Harish caught up with Padma an said in an apologetic tone, "I neve meant to embarrass you. I wanted t show off your musical talent."

"You know how nervous become when I'm not prepared to d something," Padma blew her to "And let me tell you somethin Harish, you have behave like a creep since the tim I've been here and I shall n forgive you for sometim atleast."

"Okay," Harish returne "But remember, it's not goin to be easy here for a sma town girl like you. You wi have to come to me f advice." Both of them parte in a huff.

Padma soon forgot the t and by the time the gir retired to their rooms the were busy discussing abo the sene-juno meet.

"Wonder what the prefe meant when he warned about the jungle," Mau sa as she moved towards the windo to peer into the darkness outside. am curious to know what lies withi the dense forest."

Padma came over to stand besi her friend. "Leave me out of all this she said. "I certainly haven't co all the way to Misty Heights to

obbled up by a tiger from the ungle."

Just as the two girls turned to move away from the window they potted a light flickering in the araway jungles.

"Do you think it's coming from he forest?" Mau exclaimed.

"Yes," said Padma 'reathlessly.

"Gosh, what do you think omebody is doing there so late night?" Mau queried. "Could be some kind of a smuggler or poacher perhaps?"

"Maybe it's just a tribesman," adma guessed, "sitting in front f his hut and lighting a bon-re."

The light had disappeared by ow and they got back to their eds still feeling excited.

However when they retold eir night adventure to the boys the class the next day, they arted laughing.

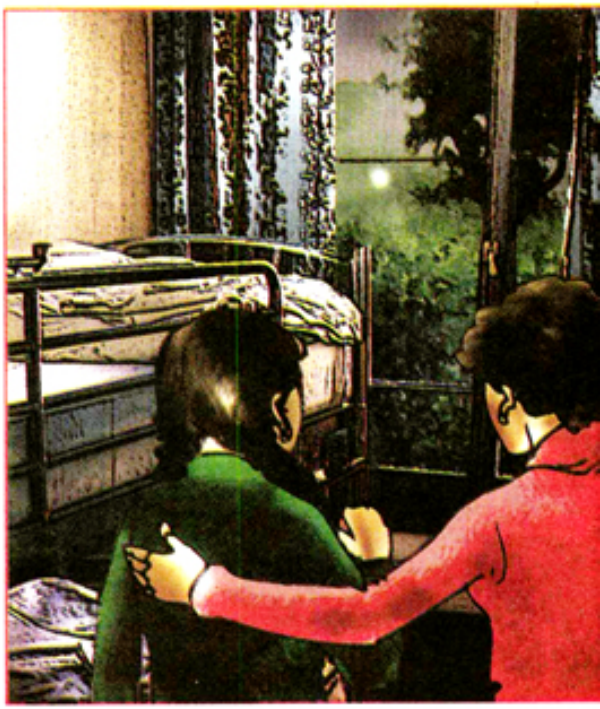
"Didn't I vouch they will fall into e trap?" Sid chuckled, turning to ad and Bad.

"The mystery light you saw last ght was from my torch. And you ept yourselves awake the whole ght thinking it was from the ngle?"

"Not funny at all Sid," Mau cut him off rather irritably.

"That's Professor Ramakanth coming down the corridor and I've heard he is a terror," the boy called Akash seated in the front row near the door shooed for silence.

And he couldn't have been more



right. Without even bothering to go in for introductions their teacher straight away jumped to the subject.

"What is an acid, base and an alkali?" he roared. "And what happens when you add a salt to a solvent? Explain with examples."

Some of the brainy ones instantly raised their hands, Padma being one

of them but the remaining could just look at each other.

"Now the next set of questions are to be answered by the ones who failed to raise their hands. What do you understand by survival of the fittest theory?" and he pointed his pen directly at Sid.

"Well.." Sid stood up hesitatingly. "..all I understand by the statement is that ultimately it is the fittest who survive and……."

"Next student," the teacher seemed to be losing his patience.

"And..and… the weakest who perish," Sadil resumed from where his friend had left.

"Out you go, both of you, straight to the library and ask for Charles Darwin," the teacher roared. "I'll see you there after the class."

After the boys left the professor turned to the rest of the class to grill them for the remainder of the period.

"Whew!" they heaved as he finally left, and pitied the two scapegoats waiting for him at the library.

After sometime Sid and Sad barged into the class, their faces red and sweaty.

"The most disgusting fellow I've ever come across," Sadil muttered. "He has now asked us to jot down this theory a hundred times in our notebook." Meantime Sid had walked upto the blackboard to chalk down a few sentences while Akash seated near the door kept a ear open for the impending footsteps down the corridor.

'WHAT IS AN ACID?' Sid wrote on the board and below it the answer, 'SOMEONE WHO CAUSES ACIDITY TO HIS STUDENTS.'

The entire class was rolling in laughter. They failed to hear the sound of high heels approaching towards their class. And finally when the footsteps stopped at the entrance there was an abrupt silence.

Standing before them was the most gorgeous and fashionable girl they had ever seen.

"Hi, I am Sheila from Singapore. Is this Central Tower, eighth grade section A?"

(To be continued)

GOKULAM

THE Magazine for Children

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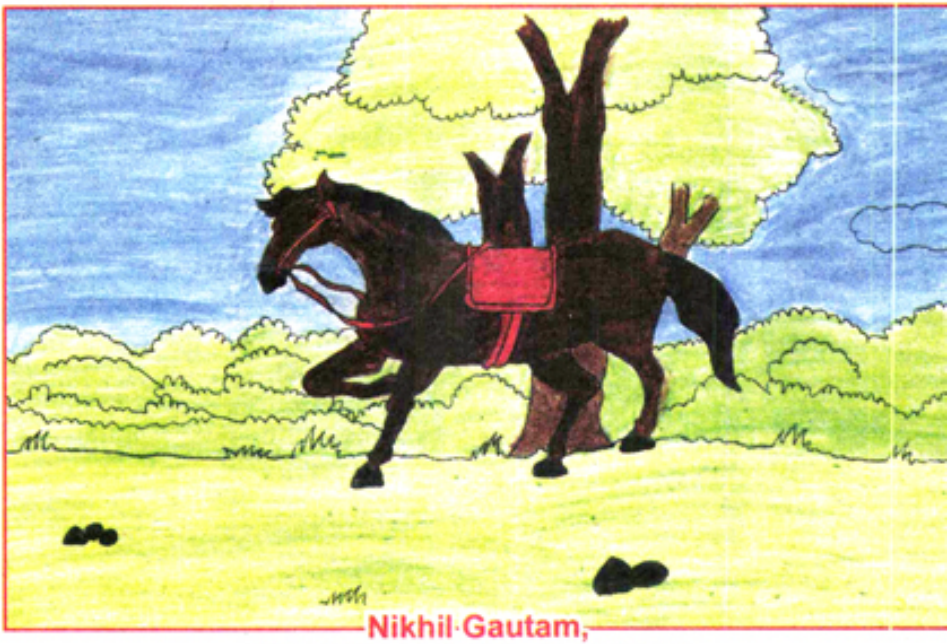
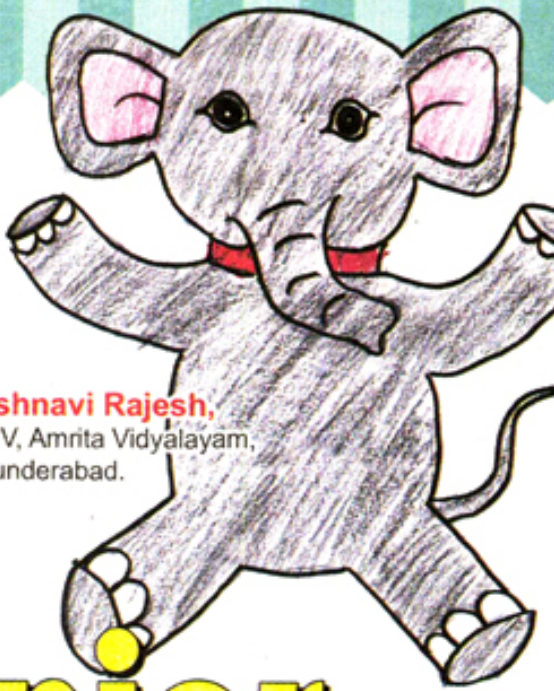


Nikhil Gautam,
Std. V, Flora Dale School, New Delhi.

Junior Gallery



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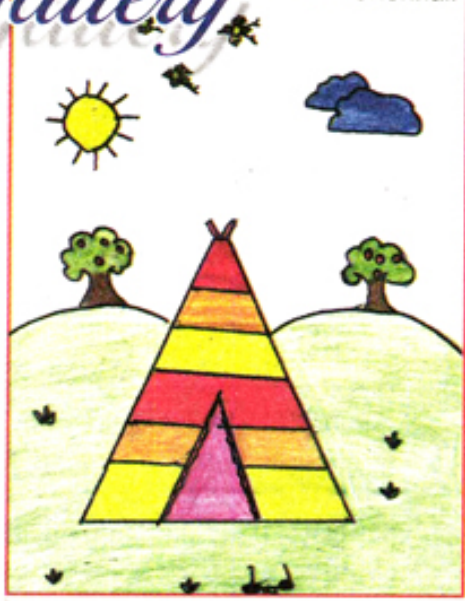


Sanjana.V,
Std. II, S.B.O.A.
M.H.S.S.,
Chennai.

Summer is Here!

Summer has arrived and so have the holidays. So here's a healthy recipe with the most favourite summer fruit, watermelon. Along with this is the recipe for a *chutney* which could serve as a tasty side-dish during travel.

MELON PUNCH

Ingredients :

Watermelon – 1 medium sized
Coriander – ½ a cup
Green grapes – 1 cup
Sugar – 2 tbsp
Crushed ice

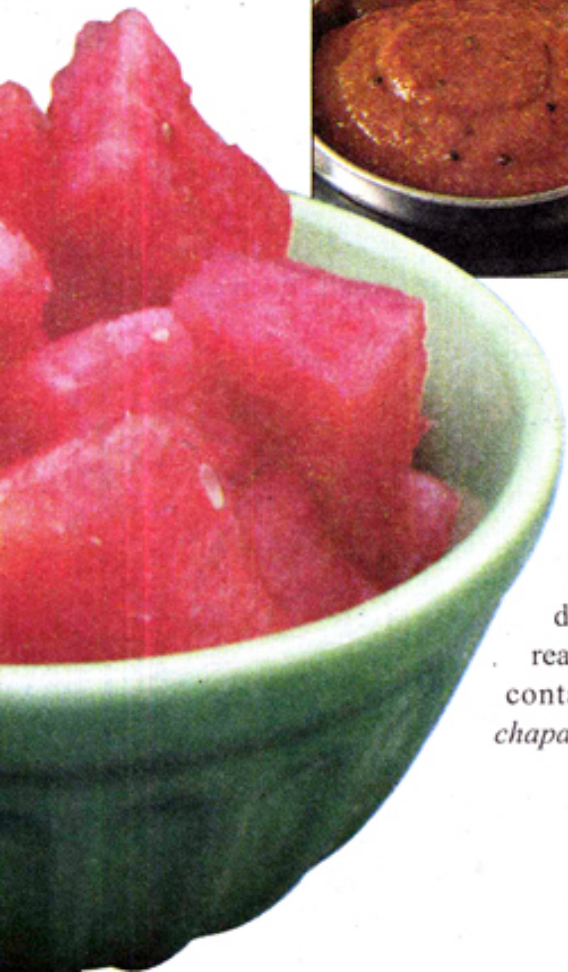
Method : Cut the watermelon into slices, carve the pulp, deseed it and dice it into pieces. Chop the coriander leaves and add to the watermelon pieces. Add the grapes and sugar and grind well in the juicer. Strain the juice in a strainer. Take a tall glass and add some crushed ice. Pour the juice into the glass. Top it up with a sprig of mint. Your cool melon punh is ready to be served.

- Mohit Kumar & Syed Rahib Raza, Std.XII, St.Mary's Sr. Sec. School, Banda, U.P.

GINGER CHUTNEY

Ingredients:

Ginger – 100 gms
Red chilly – 5 nos.
Garlic – 6 flakes
Jaggery – 50 gms
Tamarind – 50 gms
Black Gram
(*Urad Dal*) – 2 tsp
Asafoetida – ½ tsp
Oil – 5 tbsp
Mustard – ¼ tsp
Salt – As per taste



Method : Heat 2 tbsp oil in a pan and fry the ginger, garlic, red chillies and 1tsp of black gram in it. Allow it to cool for some time. Add the jaggery and tamarind to the fried items and grind well in the mixer. Take a frying pan and heat the rest of the oil. Add the mustard seeds and wait till they splutter. Saute the urad dal and the asafoetida for a minute. Now add the ginger paste and salt and saute till the oil starts separating. The delicious ginger chutney is ready. You can pack it in a small container. It tastes tangy with *chapattis*, *puris*, *idlis* and *dosas*.

- S.B.Swetha Akshita,
Std.VII, St.Francis School,
Bengalooru

Holidays are Jollydays!

Holidays are jolly days
For everyone in the world,
These days are filled with fun and pleasure
As all of us spend our time together,
Each of us are filled with joy
Young or old, girl or boy!
There is no time to waste or lose
So, come on, let's make a move,
Trains are full and sweets are cooked
All the seats on planes are booked,
Holidays are jolly days
For everyone in the world!

- Ashwin Soorya, Std.VII
National Centre for Excellence
Bengalooru

Faithful Friend

Dogs are playful and faithful,
But they do bark an earful,
They can catch a ball or wreck a hall,
And grow very huge and tall,
Dogs are very brave and calm,
They do possess a lot of charm!

- Advith.K.Sridhar,
Std.VI,
Bala Vidya Mandir,
Chennai

The World of my Dreams

Crystal clear and pollution free,
Less populated and corruption free,
Lots of water and lots of trees,
These are sure to excite me.
All literate, all employed
No corruption, we're overjoyed.
A world without cries and screams,
Is really the world of my dreams!

- S.Jayachandran, Std.VIII,
Ryan International School, Surat

Stop Pollution!

Puff puff, smoke and sound
Cars and trucks plying around,
Everywhere there is pollution
We do need a solution,
Burning trash, wasted electricity
Enough ways to pollute our city,
Oh no! the road stinks
and smells
Traffic horns silence the temple
bells,
Drilling holes on the ozone layer
'Let it stop' is my prayer,
Halt the global warming
Make the world more charming,
Let us all promise to go green
And keep the earth pure and clean!

- Sahana Sreeprakash, Std.IV,
The PSBB Millennium School,
Chennai

LAUGH ALOUD!

Father : Why has the teacher given you a zero (0) in your test paper?

Son : It is not a zero, dad. The teacher ran out of stars and she has given me a moon!

- Gowreesh Prabhu, Std.VII, Sri Ramakrishna Higher Primary School, Mangalore

Teacher : Which is the best time to pick apples in the orchard?

Student : When the gardener is not there!

Mother : Raju, there were two pieces of chocolate cake in the larder and now I find only one!

Raju : Oh! Were there two? It was so dark I missed seeing the other one.

- Anusha. L.S, Std.VII, J.K.V., Bengalooru

Hunter : I have killed many tigers in the forest of Africa.

Friend : Impossible! There are no tigers to be found in Africa.

Hunter : Obviously, I have killed them all!

- J.Indhuja, Std.X, R.S.K. HSS, Trichy

Mother : Did you enjoy your trip to the circus?

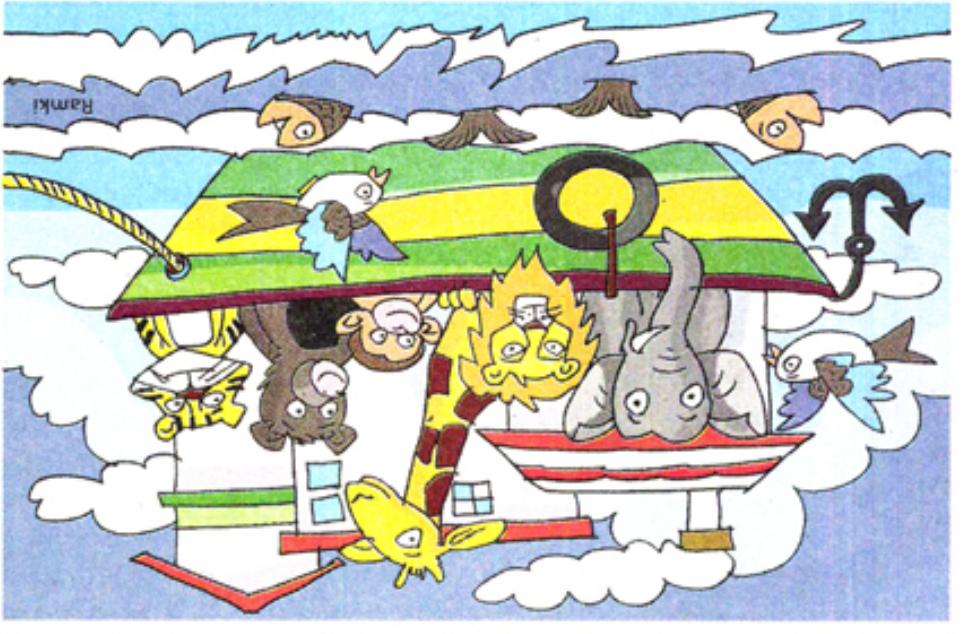
Rahul : All acts were great except for one.

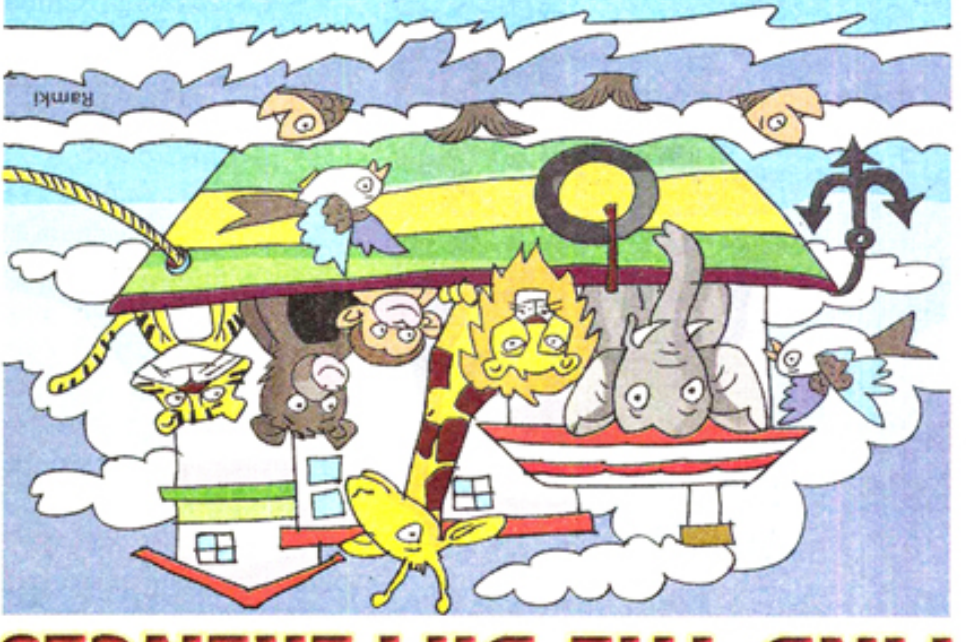
Mother : Which one?

Rahul : The person who flung the knives...he missed each and every throw!

- Adersh.C.S, Std.VII, Indian School, Muscat, Oman

Answers : 1.Anchor 2.Tusk 3.Giraffe's Horn 4.Window 5.Tiger's Tail





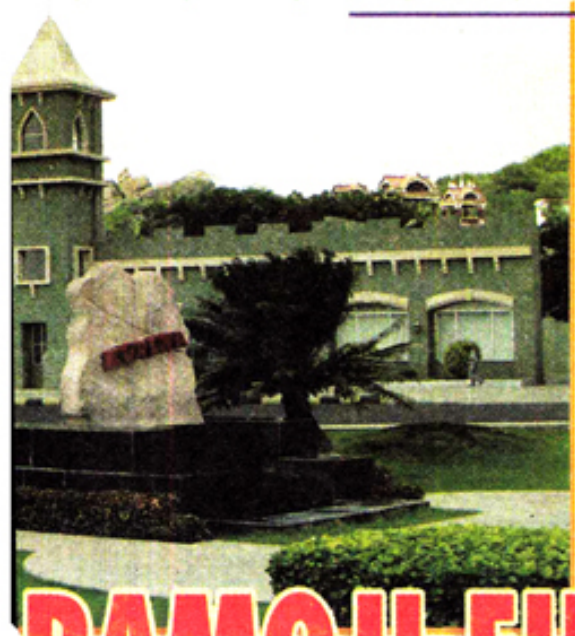
FIND THE DIFFERENCES

I was really excited when my parents said that we were going to visit Ramoji Film City (RFC). It was on the outskirts of Hyderabad and took us nearly two hours to reach there, by bus. I got down from the bus and excitedly entered the 'World of Films'. As soon as we entered we sat in a train filled with people. To my surprise, most of them turned out to be wax models! They were so well designed that I mistook them for real people. These wax models were also moving! This show lasted for about three minutes.

* 'Dil Se' Restaurant

* 'Fundustan'

Next we went to 'Movie Magic', the place where visitors can watch and learn how movie scenes are canned. A mock shooting was taking place for our benefit. A trained lady acted as the heroine for a short movie making demonstration. She had to sit on a *tonga* (horse cart) and hold on to the reins which was actually attached to the floor and not to the horse! She acted as if some ruffians were chasing her and that she was fleeing on her *tonga*. We were all wondering how they could create a scene with no horse or villains. In a few minutes the very same scene was shown to us on screen. We could do nothing but gape in surprise. The same lady was shown to be sitting on a real *tonga* and being chased by



RAMOJI FILM CITY

was really hungry and my parents took me to a restaurant aptly named 'Superstar'.

'Borasura' was the dark and scary place shown in most of the horror films. It wore a haunted and deserted look and there were lots of skeletons and bones scattered about. Though I knew that they were not real, I was scared and screamed aloud. We also went on many exciting rides like 'Rangers', 'Thrill Rider' and 'Fundustan'.

a few ruffians! They explained to us how various scenes were clipped and attached, and how, appropriate sound was added.

Our next destination was the 'Stunt Show'. Here, we all enjoyed the stunts by the mock hero. Our dear hero beat up nearly a dozen men single handedly. I found out that the men rarely laid hands on each other, let alone hit one another. After the mock fight ended we all clapped and cheered the hero loudly and laughed at the baddies' fate. Now I

Atlast we got ready to visit our real destination - the moment I was waiting for... a tour inside the heart of Ramoji Film City, the place where actual film shootings take place! What we saw earlier were general areas and amusement park. Again, a bus took us all around the place. Our tour guide mentioned the different areas and the names of the

films which were shot there. It was really fascinating and amazing, especially when I could identify some spots from a few of my favourite movies. I found that the buildings were actually made of plaster-of-paris or cardboard. I couldn't control my laughter when I found that a train actually moved on rubber tyres instead of steel wheels!

* Streets of London

Our tour guide told us about the history of this amazing place. The Ramoji Film City was built by Mr.Ramoji Rao, the editor of a leading telugu daily and also a prominent producer in Andhra Pradesh. He wanted to build a one-off, never-before-seen kind of entertainment park in India. He also wanted to share the knowledge of film-making with the general public. Giving shape to his dream, he built the Film City across a sprawling area of 2000 acres! Huge sets were erected and many towns and cities were replicated. And this firmly placed Hyderabad on India's tourist map. It attracts a whopping ten thousand tourists per day, in addition to the innumerable film directors who land up here to shoot their movies.

It is the attraction of reduced costs which brings film makers here. For example, if a director had to shoot a scene in London, he could simply take the artists to the 'London area' where the city of London (including the Tower and Bridge) has been recreated using just paper and cardboards. Infact, Ramoji Film city is certified as the world's largest film studio complex by the Guinness Book of World Records!

It was a real fun trip and different from all the other places I have visited. A must-visit place for young and old alike!

- Anupya Choudary,
Std.VI, Ameerpet, Hyderabad

PARROT in the BATHROOM!

One night when we were all fast asleep a strange noise woke me up. I sat up alert on my bed and tried to find out the source but could not. I switched on my room light but the noise still persisted. I woke up my mother and grandfather, and together we tried to find out who or what was making the noise. After sometime it stopped automatically. My mother after making sure that all the doors were locked securely, told me to forget about it and sleep peacefully. In the morning I woke up and entered the bathroom to brush my teeth and to my amazement found a parrot inside! It was sitting quietly on the tap. I realized that it was the parrot which was making the strange noise in the middle of the night. I shut the door immediately and called my mother, who, with the gardener's help let it out of the house. She explained that it must have entered the bathroom through the open window and was unable to fly out. I was glad to discover that the source of the noise was just a parrot!

- S.B.Balajee, Std.X,
E.S.MHSS, Villupuram

'Frozen' Watch!

My friend gave me a huge bar of my favourite chocolate on her

birthday. On reaching home I found that the chocolate had melted. I decided to put it inside the fridge and eat it later. I had my lunch and when I was washing my hands I suddenly discovered that I was not wearing my watch. I searched for it everywhere but was unable to find it. I was really scared as the watch was very costly and my parents would be angry if I told them about it. Feeling upset I decided to eat the chocolate to cheer myself up. I opened the fridge, and sitting there on top of the chocolate was my watch! I was thrilled to get my watch back. I wore it on my wrist and then feasted on the chocolate. It was a double treat, hurray!! The incident made me realise how absent - minded I can be!

- G.Sirisha, Std.VIII,
St.Peter's High School,
Hyderabad

Ugly Face – Golden Heart!

Once, when I was travelling by train, I saw an ugly man sitting opposite to me. I was repelled by his looks and ignored him. A small girl was occupying the seat next to him. She took ill suddenly and vomitted on the man. The girl's father scolded her and apologized to the ugly man. I was sure that the man would be angry and shout at the girl, for I myself would have done the same. To my surprise,

the man just smiled and said that it could happen to anyone. He asked the girl's parents to take care of their sick daughter and not scold her. He calmly walked to the bathroom and washed himself. I was really surprised by the man's gentle and tolerant nature. I mentally decided never to judge anybody by their looks alone. I learnt a valuable lesson that day.

- Ankita.J.Mamania,
Std.X, J.B.Khot School,
Mumbai

Cartoon in the Class!

When I was studying in class four I developed an interest in cartooning. I found that I was able to sketch anybody. This hobby of mine overtook me and I spent most of my time drawing cartoons. My friends too enjoyed my cartoons a lot. One day, during school hours, my classmates urged me to draw a cartoon of our school principal. I immediately took out my drawing book and started my favourite hobby. In no time the cartoon was ready. I looked up to see my friend's reactions but found them all ignoring me and pretending to be engrossed in their studies. I soon discovered the reason. Our principal, on his routine rounds, was standing right beside me watching my cartooning! He put out his hand for the drawing book. Standing on shaking legs I gave him the book cursing myself and my habit all the while. He wrote something on the page and gave it back to me and left the class. My friends and I immediately looked at

his remark and to my pleasant surprise, he had just written one word, 'Good'. I thanked my stars to be let off lightly but that was the last time I ever sketched in the classroom.

- Yash Singh Bhatia, Std.V,
Delhi Public School, Durg,
Chhattisgarh

Name : **Anupya Choudary**
Age : 11
Address : 406, Sai Siri Sampada Residency, D.K. Road, Ameerpet, Hyderabad - 500016
Hobbies : Reading novels, playing chess and carrom, walking, listening to radio, surfing the net.

Name : **Salona Das**
Age : 13
Address : B-1/1, Lingaraj Vihar, Pokhariput, Bhubaneswar
Hobbies : Reading novels, writing poems, swimming, nature watch.

Name : **Vrinda.S**
Age : 12
Address : 20/42 D, Kattaboman Street, Velandipalayam, Coimbatore - 641025
Hobbies : Reading, listening to music, making pen friends.

Name : **Hage Hana Tumpi**
Age : 14
Address : Vivekananda Kendra Vidyalaya, Nivedita Vihar, Seijosa, East Kameng, Arunachal Pradesh - 790103
Hobbies : Listening to music, watching Korean movies and football matches, singing, chatting with my friends.

Name : **Malini.D.Kartika**
Age : 16
Address: 9/14, Sengunthar Street, Shenoy Nagar, Chennai - 600030
Hobbies : Reading magazines, dancing, surfing the net, playing throwball, watching movies, collecting stamps, making new friends.

Hi, I am...

Name : **Sadhvika Ramji**
Age : 13
Address : 12, First Street, Gandhinagar, Crawford, Trichy - 12
Hobbies : Playing badminton, collecting coins and stamps, gardening, writing poems, dancing.

Name: **T.Krishna Kumari**
Age: 14
Address: A-28, I.R.E. Colony, Matikhalo, Ganjam, Orissa - 761045

Hobbies: Reading
ɔvels, story books, playing outdoor
ames, cycling, listening to music,
ırfing the net, making new friends.

Name: **K.V.N.Gokul**
Age: 13

Hi-Five

Name: **R.Adinarayana**
Age: 14
Address: No.56, 1st Floor, between 4th and 5th Temple Street, Malleshwaram 15th Cross, Bengalooru - 560 003
Hobbies: Playing table tennis, computer games, chatting with friends.

Address: 4565, Pallava House, ainik School, Korukonda, izianagaram District, Andhra adesh - 535214
Hobbies: Singing songs, llecting cricketer's photos, reading agazines, playing football.

Name : **Santosh.M.H**
Age : 17
Address : 3804, CHL, Sainik School, Bijapur - 586102
Hobbies : Reading newspapers, playing, philately.

***I** am a fourteen year old girl. I have a power of -2.25. My doctor advised me to wear spectacles constantly. But I find that my power is increasing regularly inspite of wearing spectacles. How do I reduce the eye power? Please help.*

- K.Sreevidya, Std.VIII,
BD Memorial Institute, Kolkata

Your doctor has given you the right advice. Glasses for short sight have to be worn throughout the day except while sleeping. Myopia (short-sight) is caused due to strain on eyes. Generally the power of such glasses increases gradually. Too much of TV, computer, holding the book close to your eyes, reading in dim light, lack of proper nutrients, and genetics contribute to short sightedness. Aurobir Ashram has a natural method

WORK OUT -STAY FIT

correcting problems in eye sigh certain eye exercises. Though s of the doctors do not agree with s methods and their results, I have many young people benefit by t exercises.

***I** am very fat and all my fri tease me and call me names. .*

Ask the Doc

Dr.N.A.Jayavelan as told to G.S.S.

do I reduce my weight?

- S.Ajay Shanmuga, Std.V, G.K.S.V.V. Junior College, Chennai

You have not mentioned your weight. However I assume that you are obese – a condition where you weigh far above the required amount with respect to your height and age. Genetic factors plays a vital role in obesity. That is, you may inherit the obesity if your parents and forefathers are/were obese.

Another major factor is your food habit. If you eat more oily and fatty items or junk food without doing any physical work, you will become obese. To reduce your weight, reduce the intake of oil, fat, cream and sugar. Do some physical exercises at least five days a week, preferably in the mornings. The physical activity should be intense and last for a minimum of forty five minutes.

I have lice in my hair and a lot of hairfall too! Is there any way to get rid of the lice and stop my hairfall?

(Name withheld on request)

Medicines in the form of lotions and shampoos are available in all the leading medical stores. They help to

get rid of the lice. You may apply these lotion / shampoo regularly. Keep your hair healthy by washing it frequently. Massage your scalp with hot oil on alternate days. This will also stop recurrence of lice. If possible, cut your hair and keep it short for a few months as short hair is easy to manage.

***I** take head bath almost everyday. My parents advice me not to do so as I may lose hair and*

become bald due to this habit of mine. Is this true? Please let me know.

- Nishank.K.P, Std.IX,
BGS National Public School,
Bengalooru

It is not true. No one becomes bald due to regular head bath. Poor nourishment of hair, any disease or a fall in general health may make your hair fall. Alternately, the quality of water may be poor in your area or may be treated with lots of chemicals. This in turn could lead to hair fall but have no fear, you will not become bald at this age.

***O**ne of my classmates does not eat her lunch. We all advice her to eat but she refuses saying that she is not hungry. But if she gets hold of junk food, she gobbles it up immediately. What should we do to help her develop good eating habits?*

- Sarbani Chakraborty
Std.IX, KV-1
Port Blair

Hunger and appetite are different in different people. Hunger is a feeling which signifies that the body needs nutrients. Appetite is your choice of food. Make clear to your friend that junk food contains lots of oil/fat/sugar. Some are prepared with recycled oil which is disastraous for health. Also inform her that instances of diabetes are more common in people who eat junk food regularly.

MATCH THE NAMES!

Sobriquets are nicknames given) a person, group or place. Soon, ıey acquire familiarity and are used ı place of the real name. Well nown places often have sobriquets, ɔr eg : New York is often referred) as 'The Big Apple'. Try and match ıe sobriquets with their original ames.

Places	Sobriquets
1) San Francisco	a) City of Dreaming Spires
2) Rome	b) Land of Cakes
3) Oxford, UK	c) City of Golden Gate
4) Africa	d) God's own Country
5) Scotland	e) Cockpit of Europe
6) Trinidad	f) Land of Thunderbolt
7) Kerala	g) Land of Midnight Sun
8) Bhutan	h) Land of Morning Calm
9) Columbia	i) Land of Rising Sun
10) Norway	j) Dark Continent
11) Korea	k) Land of Humming Birds
12) Ireland	l) The Sea of Mountains
13) Belgium	m) City of Seven Hills
14) Japan	n) Emerald Island

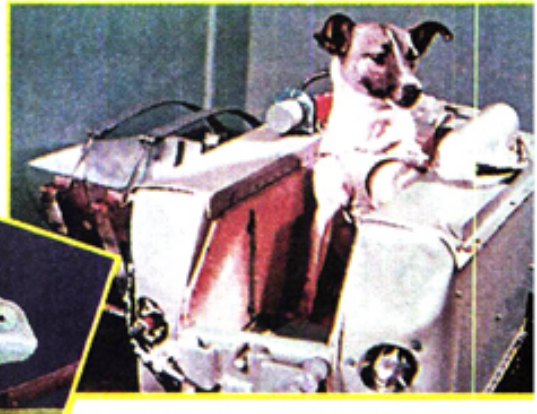
- V.Deepak Ramanan, Std.VIII, TVS MHSS, Madurai

Answers : 1-c, 2-m, 3-a, 4-j, 5-b, 6-k, 7-d, 8-f, 9-l, 10-g, 11-h, 12-n, 13-e, 14-

The first living creature to travel to space was a dog named Laika. She was launched into space in the Russian satellite 'Sputnik – 2' in 1957. Russia recently unveiled a new monument honouring the first dog in space. Many countries have also issued stamps in memory of Laika.

- Rakshith.N, Std.VII,
Carmel High School,
Bengalooru

The human heart beats about 100,000 times a day.



FLYING

Our brain sends messages at the rate of 240 mph.

The strongest muscle in the human body is the tongue.

The small intestines are about 25 feet long.

The tooth is the only part of the body that cannot repair itself. So take good care of them.

Our stomach has to produce a new layer of mucus every two weeks, else it may digest itself!

- Jayalalitha.B.Iyer,
Std.X, M.S.S.T, Mumbai

In May 1963, an American cow called 'Fawn' was swept off by a tornado and carried half a mile, only to land in another farmer's field! Five years later, another tornado carried her over a bus. She survived this too, and lived to the ripe old age of 25!

- P.Karthik Sharan, Std.II,
St.John's English School,
Chennai

of birth their skin colour is absolutely white and they are unable to change their colour.

- Sanjana.M.Galgali, Age – 12, Hubli, Karnataka

Some babies are born with a full set of teeth;

COW!

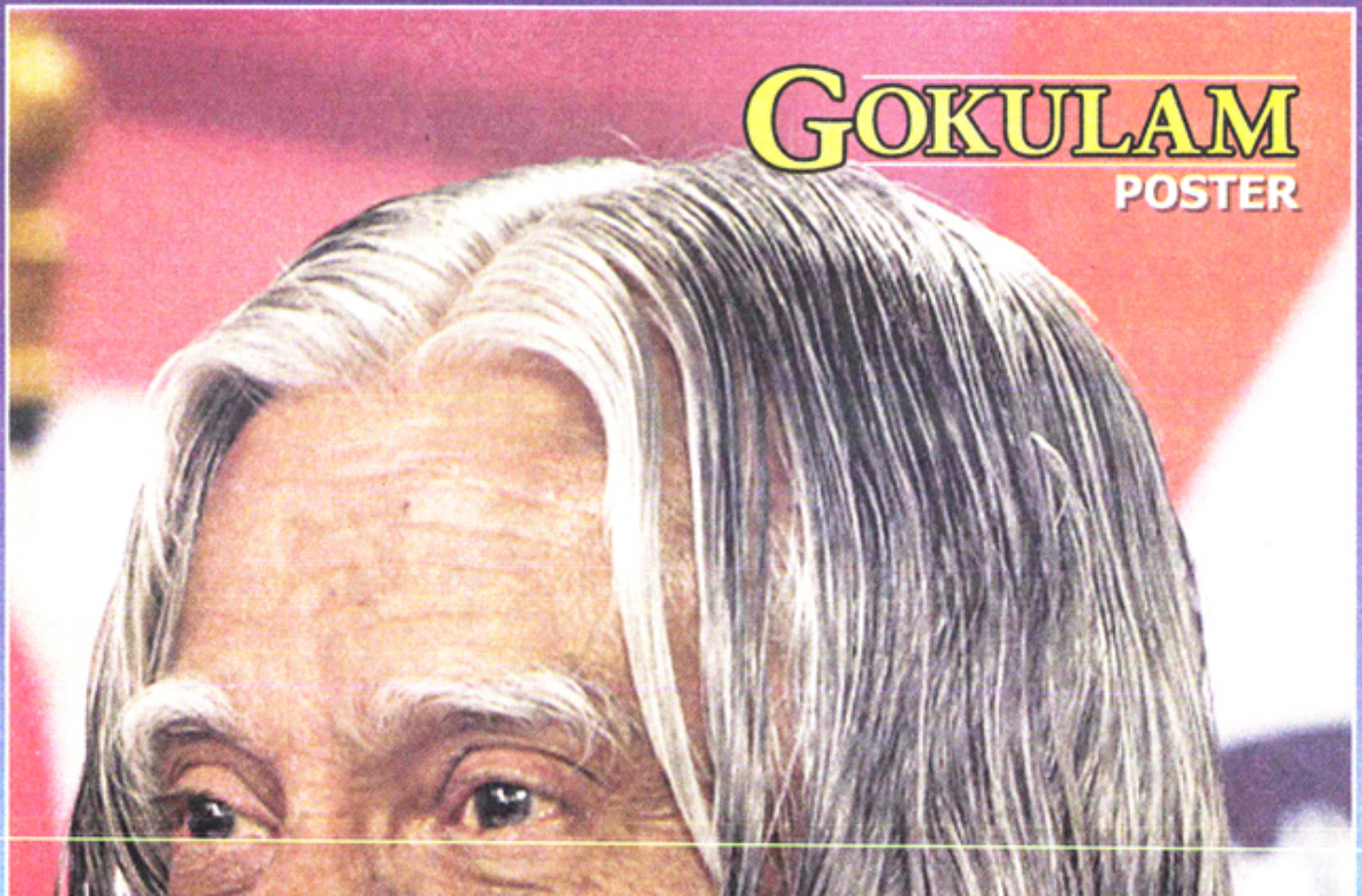
Millions of trees are accidentally nted by squirrels who bury nuts then forget the place they hid m.

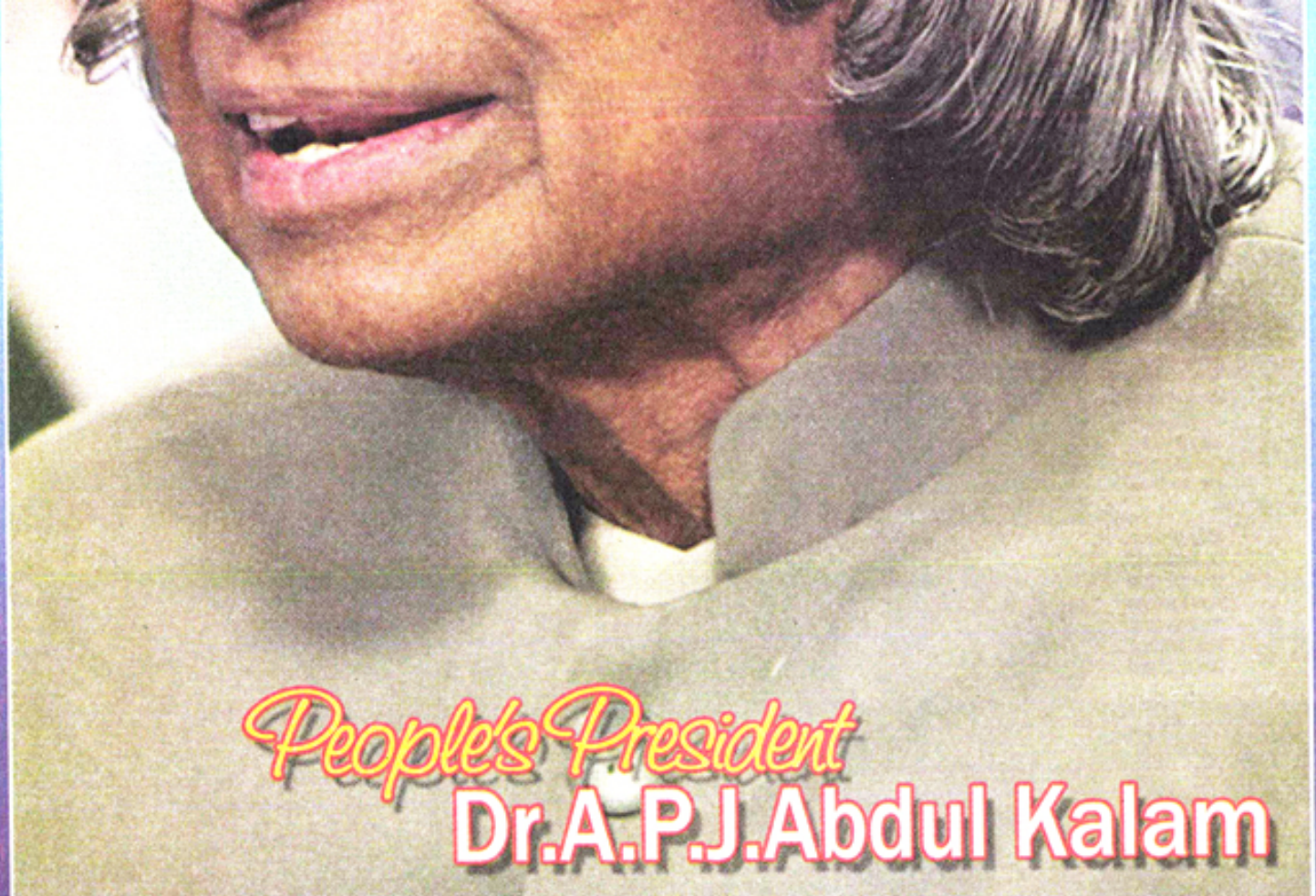
Baby chameleons hatch from r eggs after 130 days. At the time

King Louis XIV of France is one famous example.

We use more than 200 different muscles while we talk.

- Varun Adishankar, Std.X, Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Hyderabad


GOKULAM
POSTER


People's President
Dr.A.P.J.Abdul Kalam

* Annie Besant

WHO, WHAT, WHERE?

* The Tobacco Crop

* Vasco-da-Gama

* Subhas Chandra Bose

1) 'People should think of the country as a whole' – who said this?

2) The Indian National Army formed by Subhas Chandra Bose was also known as this.

3) Who was the first British woman to be jailed for participating in India's freedom struggle?

4) The title 'Father of the Nation' was coined by this great freedom fighter.

5) 'Quit India Movement' was also called as the..

6) 'Go back to vedas' was a call given by..

7) Lala Lajpat Rai was also

Our dearest **Keerthan** celebrates his 5th birthday on the 13th of April. We wish him good health, happiness, prosperity and a bright future.

Best Wishes from

Pathu, mom, pappa, Shannu, Sonu and relatives

It's Your Day

Our daughter **Sampada** celebrates her 10th birthday on 15th of April. May god bless her on this special day.

Best Wishes from

father Ashok Kumar, mother, grandmother and friends

Our dear darling son **Siddhant**

called as..

8) Which was the earliest capital of the Portuguese in India?

9) Which crop was introduced by the Portuguese in India?

10) Who was the spiritual guru of Shivaji?

11) Who was the last Governor General of India?

12) Which Sikh Guru developed the Gurumukhi script?

Quiz Time

13) When did Nehru become the President of the Congress Committee?

- S.Keerthika, Std.VII, AECS-1, Kalpakkam

Answers : 1) Jawaharlal Nehru 2) Azad Hind Fauj 3)Annie Besant 4) Subhas Chandra Bose 5) Civil Disobedience Movement 6)Ramkrishna Paramahamsa 7) Punjab Kesari 8) Cochin 9)Tobacco 10) Swami Ramdas 11) C.Rajagopalachari 12) Guru Angad 13) In 1929

celebrates his 5th birthday on the 8th of April. We wish him good health and a bright future.

Best Wishes from
parents, grandparents, brother Sankeertan and sister Asmita

* Sampada

* Keerthan

Blow the Candles!

Varun.M celebrates his 14th birthday on the 21st of April. May God shower his blessing on him.

Best Wishes from **parents and relatives**

* Siddhant. B

My friend T.Infanta Sherly celebrates her 14th birthday on the 1st of April. I wish her a very happy birthday and a prosperous life.

Best wishes from **M. Sri Nandhini**

* Varun. M

History

Hampi, the capital of the famed Vijayanagara Empire, was founded by brothers Harihara and Bukka in 1336 A.D. The empire stretched all over Karnataka, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh, and reached its peak under the rule of the dynasty's most famous king, Krishna Deva Raya. The most famous courtier of his time was 'Tenali Rama', whose tales of wit and wisdom entertain us till date. The empire became famous for its support towards building of new temples as well as renovation of old ones through out the region.

Hampi's history is very interesting, the story of a tiny hamlet growing into a powerful and wealthy kingdom before being defeated and ransacked by the Deccan sultanates.

Hampi is also mentioned in the Indian epic *Ramayana* as the site of the *Vanara* kingdom, Kishkinda.

Location

Located in the Bellary district of Northern Karnataka, the ruins of this famous city have been declared as a World Heritage Centre by UNESCO. The beautiful river Tungabhadra flows majestically nearby. The town of Hospet serves as the entry point to Hampi.

Tourist Attractions

The ruins of Hampi attract thousands of tourists every year, especially foreigners. It abounds in beautiful temples, remains of palaces, aquatic structures, ancient market streets, royal pavilions, bastions, royal platforms, treasury buildings, bathing tanks of royals and many more.

* Stone Chariot

The most famous of them is the Virupaksha temple. The temple has a 120 feet tall tower on its eastern entrance. It contains the shrines of

'HAMPI' -Poetry in Stone

Shiva, Pampa and Bhuvaneswari. Parts of this temple are older than the Vijayanagar kingdom itself! This temple is supposed to date back to the 11th or 12th century.

* Lord Narasimha

* Lotus Temple

Another splendid monument of Hampi is the Vithala Temple Complex with its 56 musical pillars. To the east of this stands the famous Stone Chariot with stone wheels that actually revolve; an unbelievable masterpiece of Indian architecture! You can also visit the Purandara Dasa Mantapa, devoted to the famous singer-saint.

Shaped like a lotus, the Lotus Mahal is a two-storey structure and was the summer palace of the queen.

The Queen's Bath was the bathing as well as wading pool of the royal ladies. The pool had lotus shaped fountains that sprouted perfumed water. The House of Victory was built in honour of King Krishna Deva Raya after his victory over the King of Orissa.

The Hazara Ramaswami temple is believed to have been the private place of worship of the royal family. The chief attraction of this temple is the series of scenes from the Ramayana carved on two of the inside walls of the *mantapa.*

- Aashik Narayan.M,
Std.VI, Jindal Vidya Mandir,
Vidyanagar, Karnataka

As usual we were bombarded with answers, opinions, objections and statements to the question about life on other planets. Of course, the topic itself was very fascinating and intriguing, the very same question plaguing every citizen of our earth for more than half a century. And no one can give a definite answer to this unless the scientific community provides us with actual proof of life existing elsewhere. Till then the debate continues...

There are millions of galaxies, stars, planets and moons in this vast universe. Though we do not have scientific evidence, life definitely exists in atleast some of these planets, in some form or the other. One thing is for sure, we are not alone!

- Ishan Ganesh Ghanmode, Std.XII, KV-Minambakkam, Chennai; G.A.Jaya Murugan, Std.VIII, Vasavi Vidyalaya, Coimbatore; Mansi Vinod Dixit, Std.X, R.H.Kapadia New High School, Ahmedabad; Abirami Kirthiga.P, Std.XII, Holy Cross Anglo Indian Hr. Sec. School, Thoothukudi; Swathi, Std.IX, PSBB, Chennai; S.Dharani, Std.VIII, Kamala Niketan Montessori School, Trichy; Vishnu Sivadasan, Std.V, Flora Dale School, New Delhi

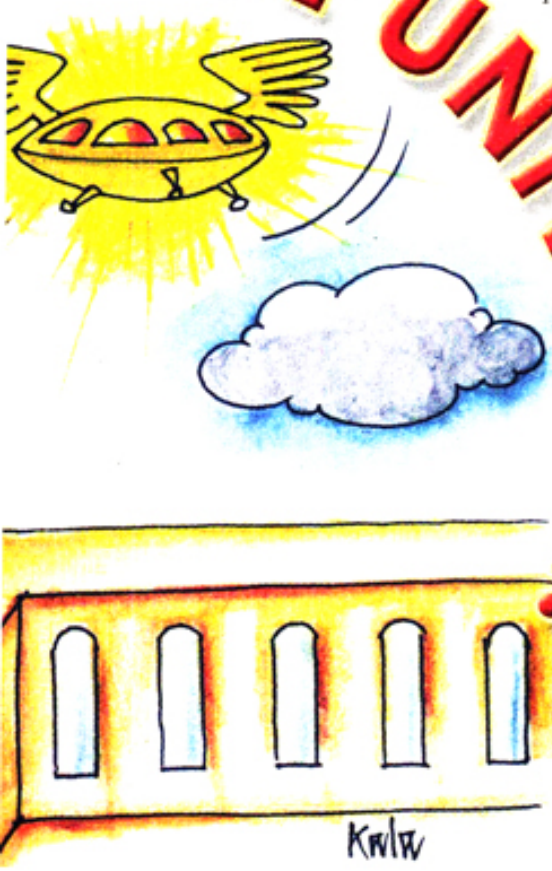
Scientists may say that there is

VAST AND

no life on other planets due to lack of water and oxygen. But there may be organisms which thrive on other gases like helium and liquid nitrogen!

- G.Raga Reddy, Std.VIII, Little Flower School, Hyderabad; Utpanna Hota, Std.VIII, DAV, Bhubaneswar

WIDE UNIVERSE!



Viewpoint

I am sure life exists on other planets. May be they are unable to communicate with us - just as we are unable to communicate with them!

- G.Monisha Gengashri, Std.IX, PSGR Krishnammal School, Coimbatore

A careful study of Hindu mythology shows that there existed three worlds in times of yore. Our *puranas* mention about *devas* and other celestial beings. So in all probability life does exist somewhere.

- V.Mahadevan, Std.XII, P.S. Sr. Sec. School, Chennai

It would be really exciting to meet aliens. Hope they are a friendly lot!

- V.Sriram, Std.X, MES Kishore Kendra, Bengalooru

Though there are many UFO sightings, research and careful analysis point them to be nothing

more than a camouflage for missile or weapon testing conducted by military super powers.

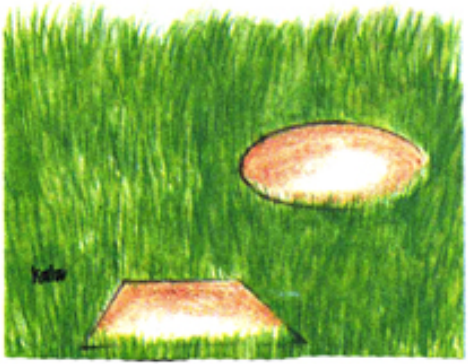
- Aashik Narayan Mukhsale, Std.VI, JVM, Bellary, Karnataka

Our earth is populated and polluted to such an extent that it is impossible for it to sustain life after a few centuries. So there must be some other planet with life, created by god to solve this problem.

- S.Manikandan, Std.XII, St.John's MHSS, Chennai

There are many unusual and unexplained happenings. UFO sightings, the Bermuda Triangle, disappearance of planes near Bass Strait – all point towards presence of 'Extra Terrestrials'.

- J.Vishnu, Std.XI, Sunbeam MHSS, Vellore; K.V.Prithvi Sudan, Std.VII, Yuva Bharathi Public School, Coimbatore; Feroz Baker, Std.VII, KV-Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram; S.Mohammed Sameer, Std.IX, Velammal, Chennai



Most people who have claimed to have sighted UFO's are from USA. Isn't this something to think and ponder about?

- Rahul, Std.VIII, Velammal MHSS, Chennai

We are not scientifically equipped to wander wide in this vast universe of ours. This being the case, it is pretty hard to come to any conclusion about this topic.

- J.Sriram, Std.IX, KV-IIT, Chennai

If life exists on any other galaxy, our scientists would have surely found them by now. Unless proven scientifically, we should not believe in extra terrestrial life. Earth is the only green planet in the universe, with capacity to nurture life. It is impossible to survive elsewhere.

- K.Sreevidya, Std.VIII, B.D.Memorial Institute,

Kolkata; Srinisha, Std.IX, ırisht School, Katpadi, Vellore; Sadhvika Ramji, Std.IX, Crea Children's Academy, Trichy

I don't think it is possible for any e to exist in other planets / axies. UFO sightings are rumours ead by a few people to scare and ate confusion in the minds of the general population.

- M.Srinath, Std.VIII, Vasavi Vidyalaya, Coimbatore; Sri Vidhya Sridhar, Std.X, Hari Shree Vidyalayam, Chennai; K.Kavi Priya, Std.IX, Shrishti MHSS, Vellore; Kavitha.G, Std.XII, St. Joseph of Cluny, Puducherry;

QUESTION FOR THE MONTH:

hould Hindi be made compulsory in all schools throughout the country?

Send us your views by 25.042010. Each published entry will receive a ize of Rs. 25/-. Remember to include details of your age, class, school and sidential address. Those of you who are non- residents of India should send us a cal (Indian) address too. You can send entries by post or by e.mail okulam@kalkiweekly.com)

cotton and linen!

- Ashwini Velmurugan, Std.V
Maharishi Vidya Mandir, Ho

★ The longest stretch of strai road is in Australia. It is about miles long.

★ Switzerland is the high consumer of chocolates in the wo

★ The blue flame is the hott followed by white , yellow , orar and red which is the 'coolest' or

- M.Sathyaroopa, Std.V
Kalaivani Kalvi Nilayam MH
Thingalur, Tamiln

★ The famous painting of Mona Lisa does not have any eyebrows. In those days it was fashionable for women to shave their eyebrows!

★ A violin contains about 70 seperate pieces of wood.

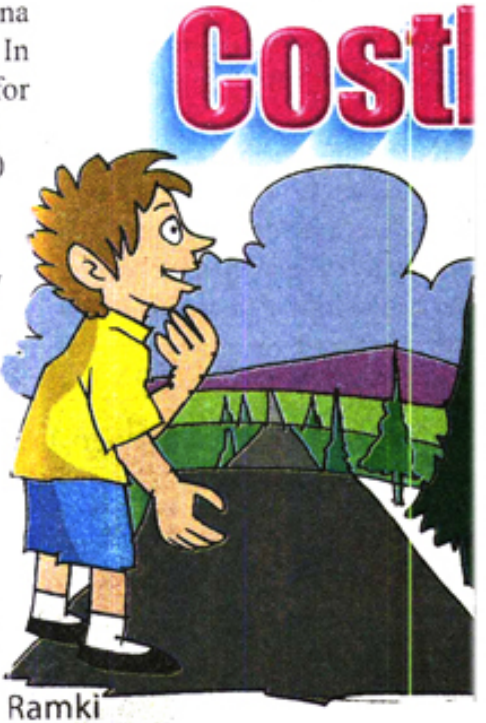
- Sudharshini Omprakash, Std.VII, St.Mira's Secondary School, Pune

★ Canada is an Indian word meaning "Big Village".

★ The international telephone dialling code for Antarctica is 672.

★ The average person falls asleep in seven minutes.

★ US $ notes are made out of



Ramki

Cotton!

★ The banana is the most consumed fruit in the world.

★ The game volley ball was invented by William G Morgan in 1874.

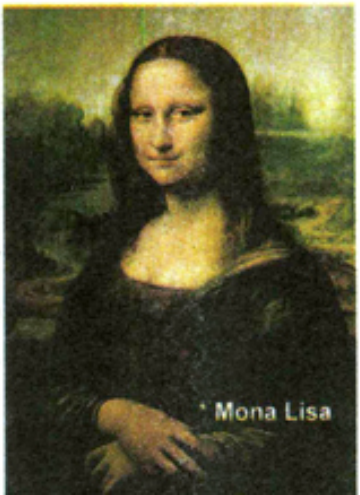
★ A female gorilla, Koko has been taught 1,000 words of sign language and understands about 2,000 words of spoken English. She even has her own email id : kokomail@aol.com

- Rajeshwari Kamath, Std. IV, DAV Public School, Pune

★ Crop circles are complicated geometric patterns, usually formed in wheat fields. Some people believe that the patterns are left by the imprint of an extra-terrestrial craft, or that they are a message from extra-terrestrials themselves.

Another theory is that natural forces such as tornardoes, heat or strong winds create the patterns by flattening the crops, but the shapes of most crop circles makes this unlikely. The most likely explanation is that the circles are made by people as a hoax. They gradually build up a design by flattening the wheat, using very basic equipment such as rope and planks of wood.

- S.Gohula Sundar, Std.X, TNPL MHSS, Karur



Mona Lisa

Travelling within the country/ abroad is the number one holiday activity for most of us. It could be a visit to the most exotic destination in the world, or to any of the hill stations to beat the heat, or maybe a relaxed visit to grandma's house. Whatever the case may be, travelling involves a certain amount of planning and careful preparation. Just go through these tips and enjoy a safe and comfortable journey and stay.

Clothing

- Choose synthetic fabrics as they occupy less space, dry quickly and are also light weight in comparison to cotton.

- Avoid packing more than a pair of jeans as they are bulky, unless your tour involves a lot of trekking and climbing.

- Do take a couple of old clothes as they can be discarded along the way and make space for new items.

- Don't forget to pack a couple of extra bags for the purchases you make.

Food

- Prepare and pack food items which do not get spoilt easily. *Rotis, theplas, idlis* are all very good for travel. You could also take fruits like grapes and oranges as the quench your thirst in addition t being a healthy snack.

- Drink purified and bottled wate wherever possible.

Medication

- Carry a first aid kit and don' forget your regular medicines Include tablets for travel sickness.

- Pack a good, powerful torc with extra batteries.

Other Items

- If your journey involves a lon travel by car or train, you could tak

EAVE..?

ooks, puzzles or a game of sudoko. Nothing better than your favourite Harry Potter novel to while away the ime.

- Don't forget your camera and ell phone chargers!

- Do take a nice gift, if you are lanning to stay at your friend's r relative's house.

- Leave a copy of your avel itinerary and contact etails with your neighbour/ amily.

At your Destination

- Always be aware of what's

Travel Tips

going on around you. Never accept anything from strangers and avoid giving too much personal information to unknown persons.

- Take care of your belongings. Beware of pickpockets and thieves.

- Obey the rules of the place you are staying in.

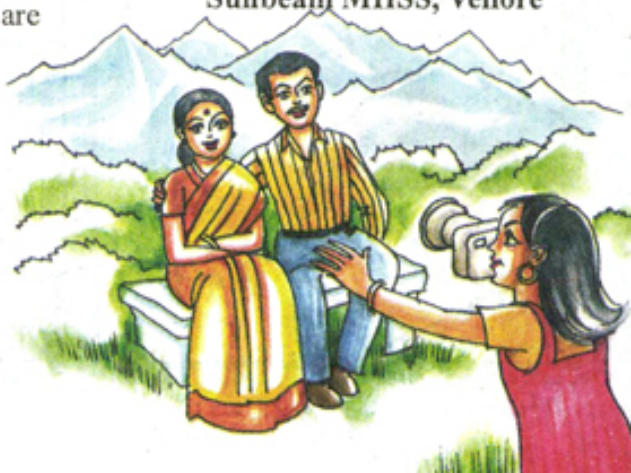
After the Travel

- When you come back from your travel you can write your own travelogue and maybe send it to Gokulam or your school magazine.

- You can also make an album with your tour photos. Don't forget to mention date, time and the place!

Happy Holidays and Safe Journey!

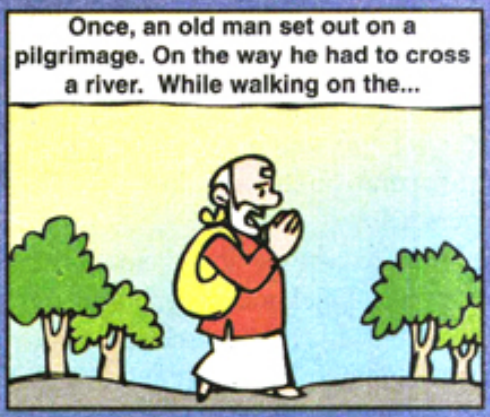
- J.Vishnu, Std.XI,
Sunbeam MHSS, Vellore

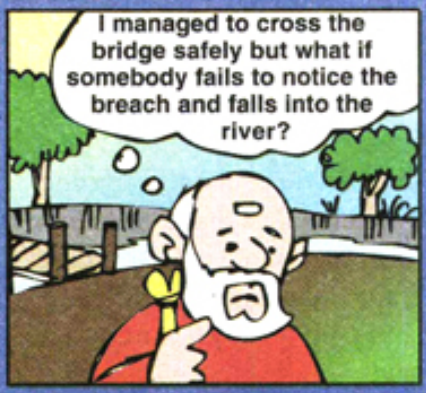


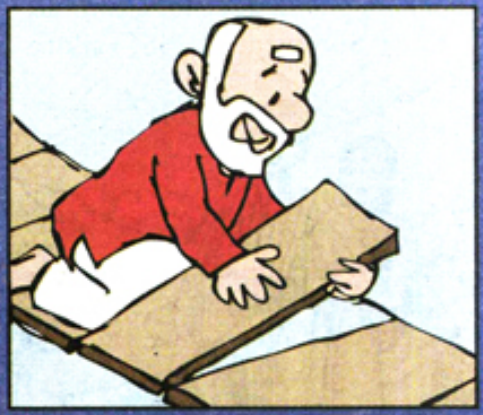
TRUE DEVOTEE

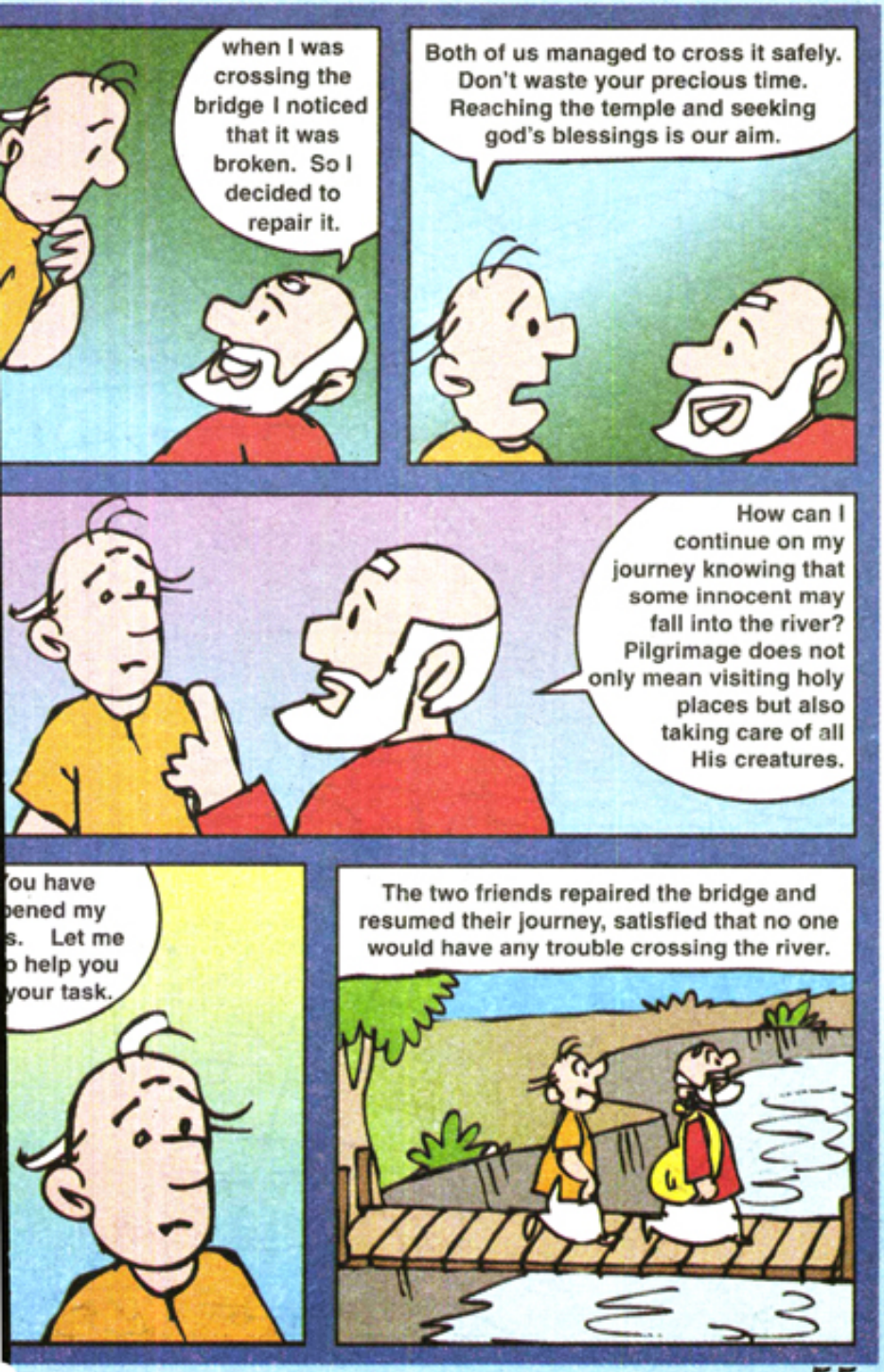
Story : G.Karthikeyan, Std.VII, Velammal MHSS, Madurai

Artist : Pillai

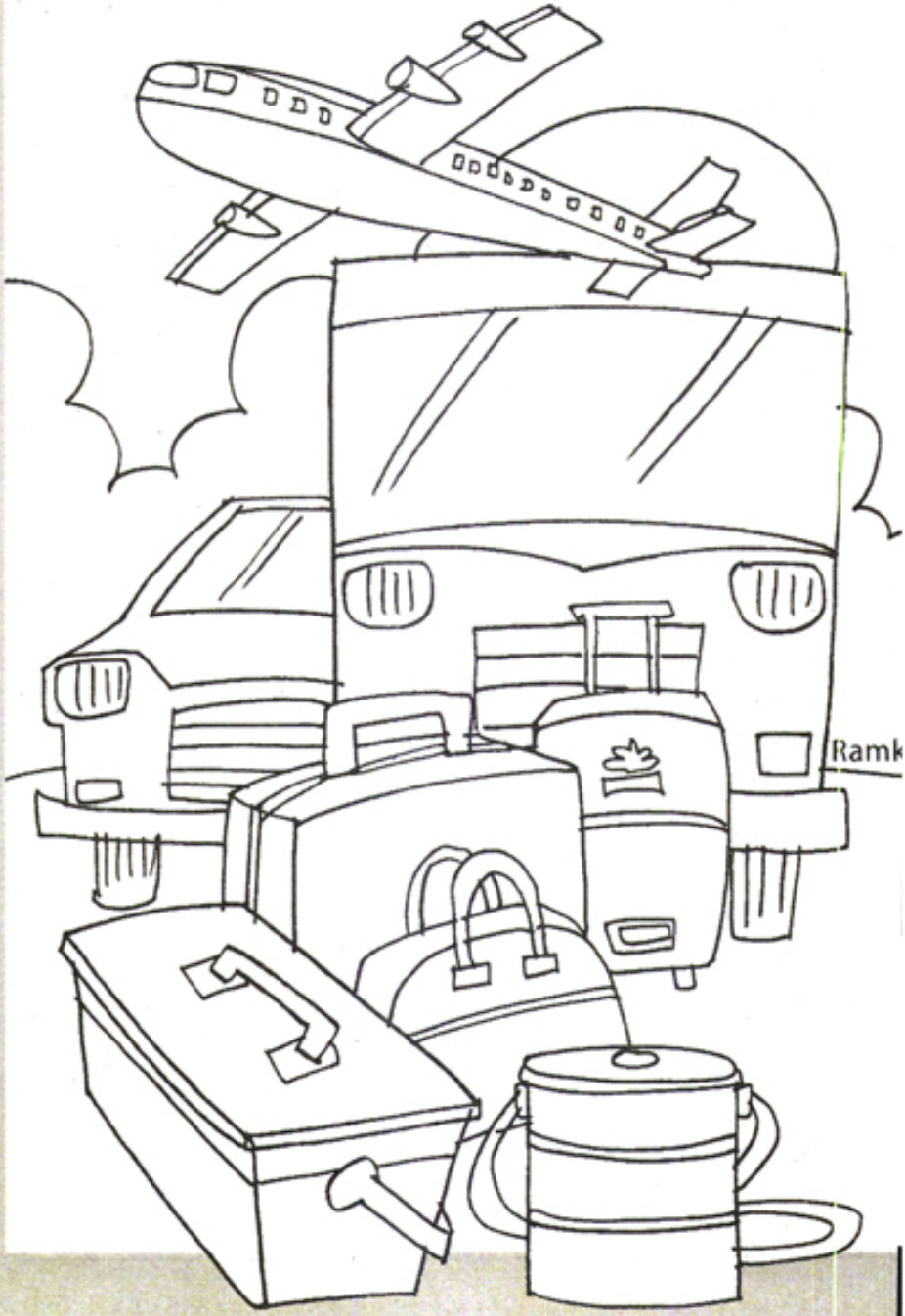







when I was crossing the bridge I noticed that it was broken. So I decided to repair it.
Both of us managed to cross it safely. Don't waste your precious time. Reaching the temple and seeking god's blessings is our aim.
How can I continue on my journey knowing that some innocent may fall into the river? Pilgrimage does not only mean visiting holy places but also taking care of all His creatures.
ou have pened my s. Let me o help you your task.
The two friends repaired the bridge and resumed their journey, satisfied that no one would have any trouble crossing the river.

COLOUR UP



Attention!

Dear children,

A young reader sent us a lovely poem. We chanced to find out that it had been copied out of his text book! Please don't copy out of books and send them as your contributions. If your writing is to be published, it should be interesting and well-written and also original. But that's not enough; we need you to follow some simple rules as well:

1. **Write down your name, class, name of your school and complete residential address** at the beginning of each contribution. Henceforth, we will not accept any contribution with incomplete details.

2. **Make use of A4 sheets and write on one side of the paper**, leaving the other side blank. And do write legibly.

3. **Number your pages** and if your contribution runs to more than two pages, then write your complete personal details at the back of every page.

4. **Contributions by e-mail are welcome**... but do not forget to give complete details including your e-mail id at the beginning of each mail.

5. **The best contributions will be published** and a certificate of appreciation will be sent to the contributor. Do preserve your certificates, for the child with the maximum number of certificates will get a bumper prize at the end of a year.

6. **All competition entries** must reach us before the last date mentioned.

7. Coupons provided in Gokulam for competition entries **should not be xeroxed**.

8. Entries to It's Your Day (Birthday Bash) and theme based contributions (eg., Diwali, New year, Republic Day, Environment Day, Teacher's Day, etc) **should reach us two months prior to the respective events.**

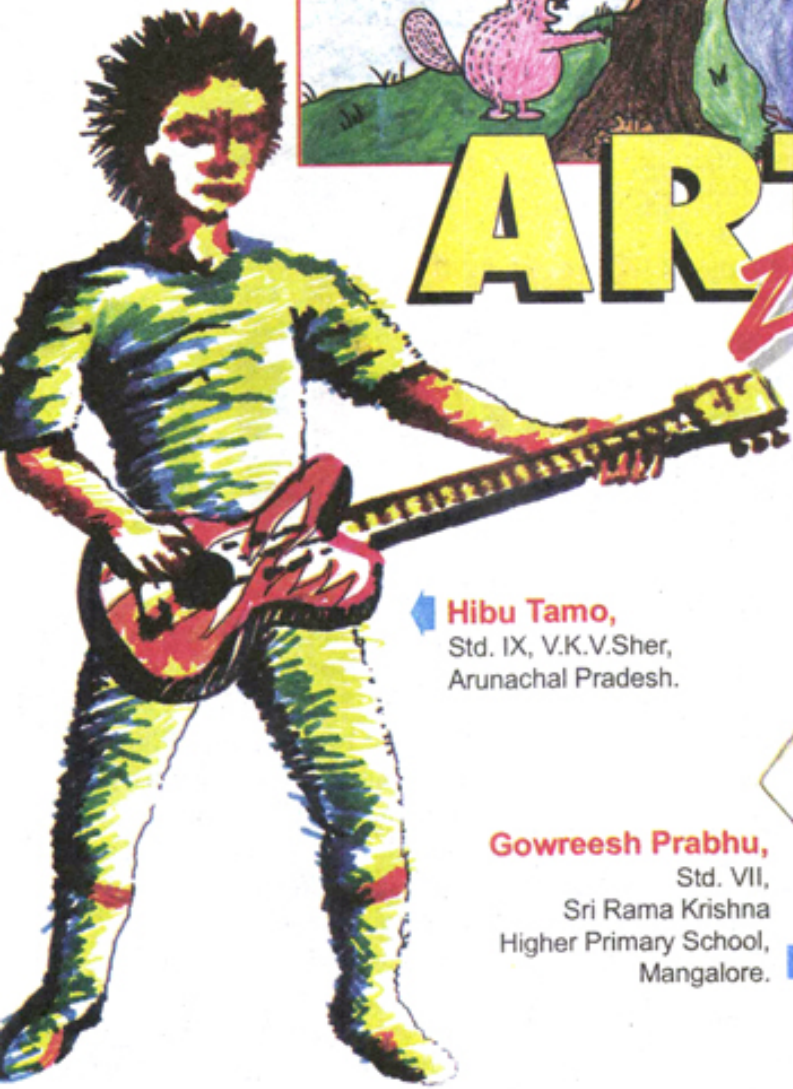
9. **We are looking for original stories, experiences, amusing anecdotes and articles**, but if you have based your writing on any source, then do acknowledge it.

10. **No copying, please!**

Please make sure that you take care of the ten commandments!

ART ZONE

Dhinesh Siddhu,
Std. IX, Saradha MHSS,
Gingee.

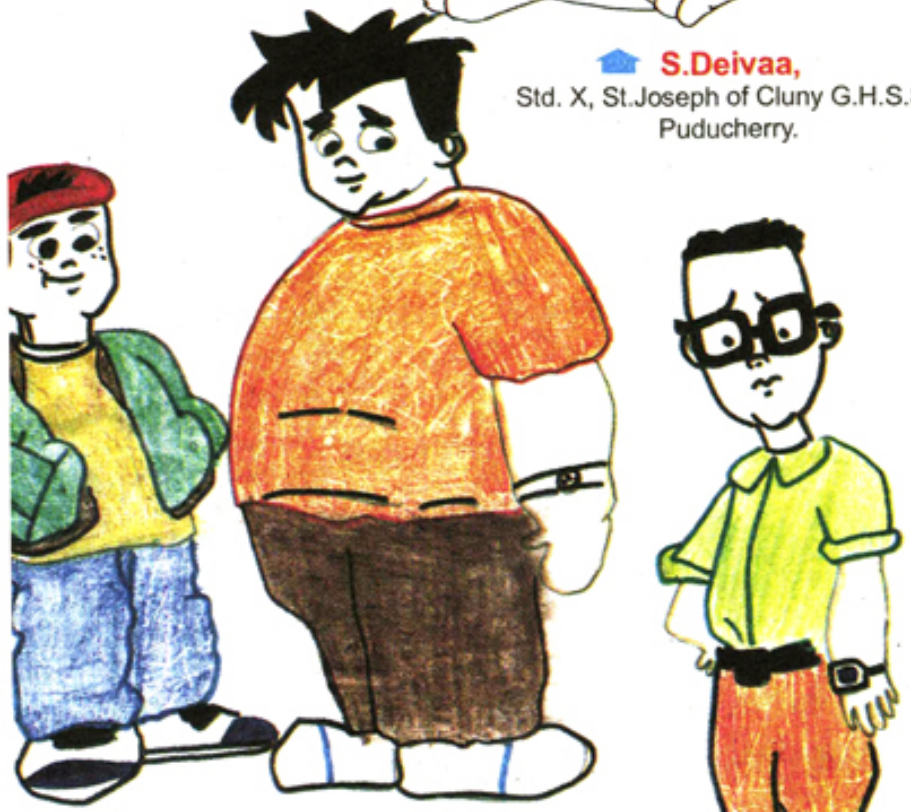


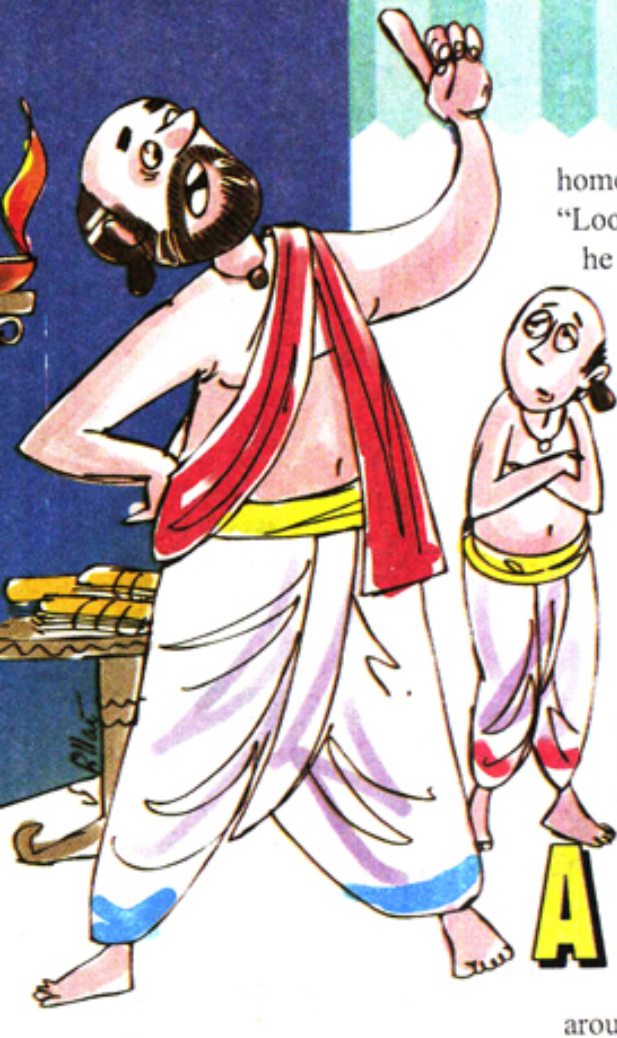
Hibu Tamo,
Std. IX, V.K.V.Sher,
Arunachal Pradesh.

Gowreesh Prabhu,
Std. VII,
Sri Rama Krishna
Higher Primary School,
Mangalore.

Tapasi Brahma,
Std. VII, D.A.V. Public School,
Balasore, Orissa.

S.Deivaa,
Std. X, St.Joseph of Cluny G.H.S.S.,
Puducherry.





A JOURNE

Spring, AD 727, Tamil Nadu.

"You are going to Kanchi... that is final. I have arranged for your uncle to have you, and you will start your studies at Acharya's monastery in four days. I want no argument."

Nandhan frowned, mutinous. "I can study at home, father. All my friends do."

"You have learnt nothing. You will never do unless you leave home," his father spoke impatiently "Look at Kannan – his father says he already manages the accounts and travels around the country to improve business. Now he's going to Kanchi to learn more. And you – you spend hours at home, sleeping! How can I trust our clothes trade to you? No, you will learn mathematics, economics languages and plenty of discipline. I have no hope of you ever excelling in anything Perhaps you will learn something simply by being around Kannan."

Nandhan made certain indistinct noises which his father chose to interpret as assent, and dismissed him.

At least Nandhan's mother felt different. She spent the next two days feeding him thoroughly and preparing a great many sweets and savouries, until, the day of the journey his father confiscated them all, while Kannan watched

O LEARN..!

Pavithra Srinivasan

helplessly.

"Why, why, *why* must I go to Kanchi?" Nandhan whined, as they set off on the road towards the city. "What does that place have that our village doesn't?" Kanchi was so far away! Who wanted to travel, anyway?

"It's a place of many *kadigais* (educational institutions)," said the accompanying Kannan, in a lofty tone. "Great teachers and monks live there, and they teach everything we need to know in life. You have heard of the great Thirunavukkarasar, haven't you? He had his own mutt in Kanchi. Oh, the hymns he composed ...!"

Nandhan hadn't, but he nodded anyway. Kannan saw through it at once and sneered. "He's also known as Appar."

"You already know everything," Kannan was sarcastic. "Why do *you* need to study?"

"Perhaps I can teach them something."

That was it. Come what may, Nandhan wouldn't put up with this self-satisfied idiot anymore. Neither was he going to Kanchi. They had travelled more than a day now, and were approaching a deep forest. Somewhere to the east was a small stream which Kannan said would provide for their ablutions. Well, he'd see his chance, leave Kannan and simply get back to his village. One of his numerous friends would put him up. He'd return home after a few months and no one would be the wiser. He knew all about life, anyway. And father would leave

him enough money. Who needed skills, education and knowledge, after all?

It was easy to put his plan in action once they camped on the outskirts of the forest. Kannan, not used to the exercise, had been groaning all evening, and after a quick-fix meal of *kezhvaragu koozh* (ragi gruel), fell asleep by the fireside. Nandhan simply picked up his bundle and slunk away.

As it turned out escaping had been easy. It was the going-back-home part that was proving to be difficult. For Nandhan had had the praiseworthy if silly notion of entering the forest, fearing that Kannan, if awakened, might go back on the road they came by and catch him. After a few hours he would just backtrack and leave for home. How difficult would it be to navigate a few trees, anyway?

Inside the forest, though, he stood stock-still, terrified. Low roars and rumbles reached him occasionally. The forest was pitch black. He'd left behind a good deal of his provisions with Kannan, believing he didn't need them. Foolish!

"Lost?"

He jerked around at the sound. A slim figure rose from under a tree, dressed in saffron robes. His head was clean-shaven. A Buddhist monk. To Nandhan, it seemed as though Lord Buddha himself had come down from the heavens.

"I... I was going to Kanchi with my friend Kannan," Nandhan stuttered, near tears, much to his shame. "But I didn't want to – and I ran away. I'm lost."

"Why didn't you want to go to Kanchi?" asked the monk softly.

"Because I have to study there for two years. It's so far away!"

The monk smiled. "You don't like leaving home, then. Shall I take you back?"

"I can't return. Father would be furious."

"In that case, will you accompany me? I'm lonely and it's hard travelling alone." The monk looked weary. "When we reach my destination I will send you back with a

returning monk."

Nandhan considered this. "Will we have to travel for long?"

"A little, yes. But I would really appreciate the company." The monk walked forward, and Nandhan saw that he was quite young. "You will be doing me a favour."

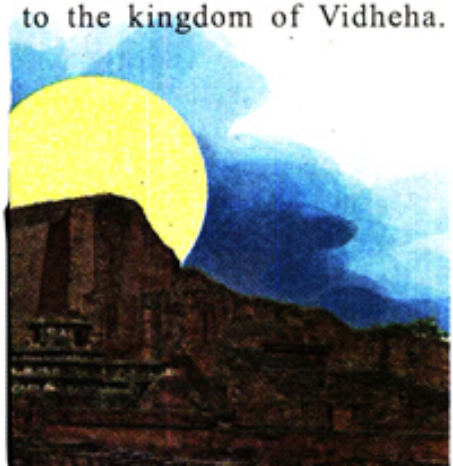
Nandhan was suspicious. "You won't trick me and take me to Kanchi?"

The monk laughed. "No. We shall send the monastery a note through your friend Kannan. Well?"

Something in the monk's earnest tone won Nandhan over. They backtracked to Kannan's camp, gave him the message and set off.

Later, Nandhan would wonder how he'd trusted a total stranger – but then, it seemed the best thing to do. And it easily proved the most bizarre year of Nandhan's life.

The monk, Mahinda, was travelling in a very circuitous fashion to the kingdom of Vidheha.



Nandhan was horrified. He had no idea where it was. Mahinda explained its geographical location - it lay beyond the Kalinga, Anga countries, to the northeast, and under the Himalayan mountains.

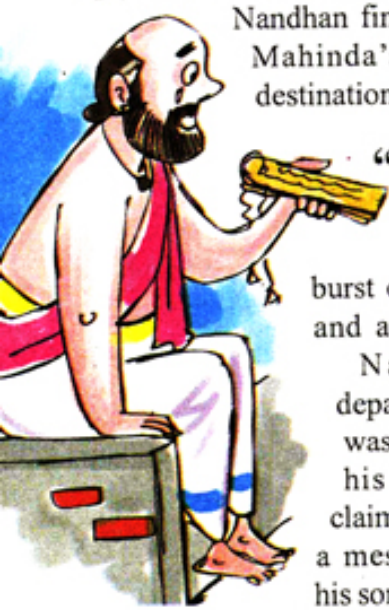
"I'm not really fond of travelling," sighed Mahinda, and Nandhan didn't notice the mischievous twinkle in his eyes. "But with you, it's easier.'

At once, Nandhan's gallantry was roused. If his company helped Mahinda, then it was worth it.

To a boy who had never travelled more than a day beyond his village, this journey was life changing. They by passed Kanchi, looked into the seaports of the Kalinga kingdom, crossed the swollen river of Godavari and traversed miles along little townships and villages. People gave food willingly to them; Mahinda, he saw with awe, spoke several languages, and he yearned to do so, as well. The monk taught him to pick berries, fruits and identify medicinal leaves. Sometimes they befriended other monks along the way, mostly, they went alone, resting in travellers' guest houses. To the softly reared Nandhan, walking was a strain. Mahinda taught him to adopt a rolling gait, which helped considerably.

Chieftains of small kingdoms sometimes entertained them. Besides Tamizh, Nandhan learnt Pali and a good deal of Sanskrit, the court language. He strummed strange musical instruments and handled bows, arrows and even swords. Never once did Mahinda ever force him to learn anything–it was all Nandhan's choice.

A mild winter later, spring burst upon them in full force. And Nandhan finally learnt Mahinda's real destination.



"Nalanda!" Nandhan's father burst out. A year and a half after Nandhan's departure, here was a monk at his doorstep, claiming to have a message from his son – from the kingdom of Videha!

"But I sent him to Kanchi!"

"I know you are upset – but please read the letter first."

Nandhan's father opened the palm leaf.

"Dear Father,

You'll never believe me when I say that I am writing this from Nalanda university. I hated it when you sent me to Kanchi – foolishly, I thought you wanted me to pore over palm-leaves and scrolls. I thought I needed to learn nothing. But what you really wanted was for me to see the world, wasn't it? And I would not budge from home. Were it not for Mahinda who took me through the length of this country, I would not have understood the wealth of knowledge here. You sent me to learn economics... I learnt far more than that. Nalanda has students from all over the world, to study every subject known to man. It is one of Bharathavarsha's greatest universities.

I shall be home in a year. Salutations to my dear mother.

- Nandhan."

When Mahinda finished relating the events of the past year Nandhan's father spoke. "I find it rather difficult to believe that you, a seasoned traveller, would have been so lonely in your journey."

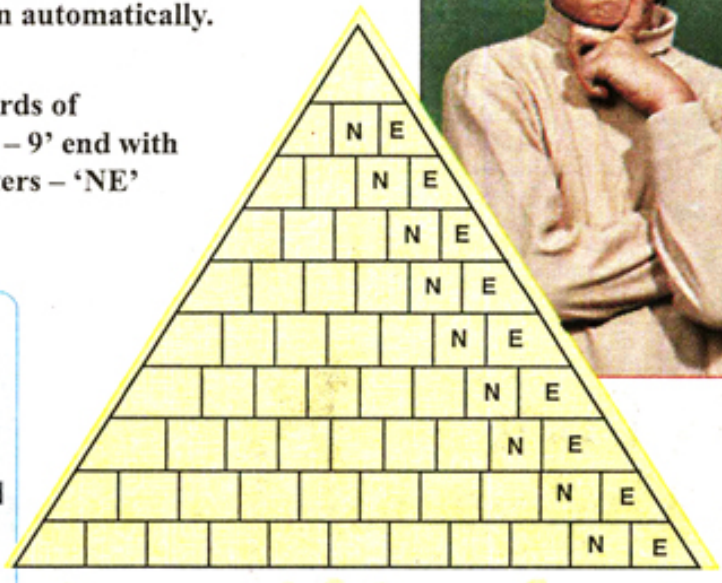
Unexpectedly, Mahinda laughed "I saw what his problem was and it was the only way I could trick him into accompanying me."

Nandhan's father bowed. "And through you, he's learnt what wanted him to learn, it's not the destination that matters but the journey!"

Dear Children,

Write the right word in the pyramid squares with the help of the clues given below. Read the hints carefully and the answers will fit in automatically.

Note: All the words of 'Pyramid Puzzle – 9' end with the same two letters – 'NE'



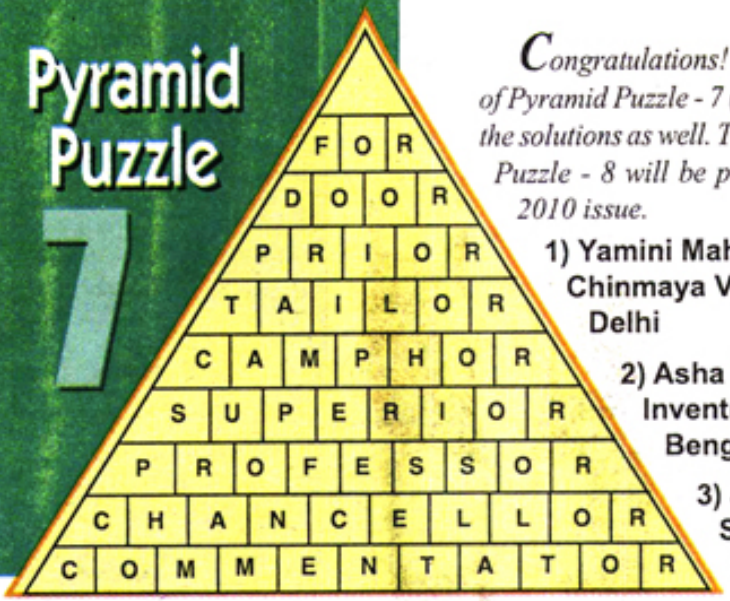
Fill in the form on the reverse of this page and send your entries to Gokulam before **25.4.10**

Pyramid Puzzle - 9

1. Numero Uno
2. A narrow street
3. One of the greatest spin bowlers
4. Of unsound mind
5. Ordinary
6. All of us
7. Trrng...trrng
8. Spread or carried by water
9. Used to protect clothes from pests

- G.S.S

Pyramid Puzzle 7



Congratulations! Here are the winners of Pyramid Puzzle - 7 (February 2010) and the solutions as well. The results of Pyramid Puzzle - 8 will be published in the May 2010 issue.

1) Yamini Mahendran, Std.X, Chinmaya Vidyalaya, New Delhi

2) Asha Iyer, Std.V, Inventure Academy, Bengalooru

3) J.Sai Priyanka, Std.X, KV-Picket, Secunderabad

4) R.Vishva Saravanan, Std.IV, KV-II, Tambaram, Chennai

5) Vaishnavi.M.Iyengar, Std.XI, R.K.Talreja College, Mumbai

Pyramid Puzzle - 9 Entry Form

Name : (Mr/Ms) .....

Age : ..... Class : .....

School : .....

*Residential Address : .....

..... Pin .....

Signature : .....

* Local address is a must for overseas entries.

The Editor, Gokulam, Kalki Buildings,

47-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 032.

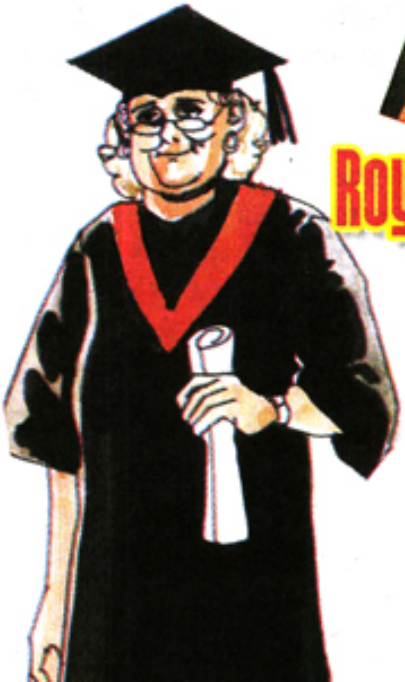
● Strictly for school going children ● Five lucky winners will get a cash award of Rs.50/- each. They will be decided by a draw of lots from out of the all correct entries. ● Entries with completed grid on the reverse accepted on this form only ● No xerox copies. ● Editor's decision is final and binding.

J.K. Rowling has phoo-phooed plagiarism claims against a Harry Potter novel of hers. She says that the accusation is absurd. A law suit against her is pending in courts in England. British author Adam Jacobs has filed a case stating that her "H.P. and the Goblet of Fire" contained copied matter from his book about "Willy the Wizard"!

* J.K. Rowling

The Royal Mail in Britain was slower than a snail when the postman delivered a package thirty years after it was posted, to an address just six miles away! Gill Smithers received the package post-marked 4th November 1982 exactly 27 years 3 months and two days later! The packet contained her secretarial certificates. But it didn't matter much, since she already had a job and was quite comfortable.

Royal Mail becomes Snail Mail!



A retired teacher in U.S.A. who

• Pranab Mukherjee

was 100 years old got her college degree! Harriet Richardson studied in Keen school and got a teaching certificate in 1931. She got a job as a teacher and after retirement, she attended the centenary celebration of her school. At that juncture she suddenly felt that she should get a degree! She worked for it and got it - a day before she died of old age!

The budget for 2010-11 was presented to the parliament by Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee. The opposition has been protesting against price rise of almost all commodities. The fiscal deficit in the budget and the enormous borrowing by the central government is expected to put up prices still further on account of inflation. Moreover, the government has revised the prices of petroleum products upwards, which will result in increase in freight charges and prices shooting up! A vicious circle indeed!

Knee replacement surgery for humans is now a common affair. Missy a pet cat in U.K. became the world's first animal to have an artificial knee! She was involved in an accident and a veterinarian operated on her leg to replace a knee which was damaged. Missy is doing fine now!

• Pratibha Patil- Women Power

The women's bill, reserving 33 percent of seats in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies for the fairer sex, was passed in the Rajya Sabha amidst ugly scenes of protest by some opposition parties. The bill has

to be approved by the Lok Sabha and around 15 of the state assemblies before it can become law. The constitution's 108th amendment bill is considered to be a great leap forward in women's empowerment.

* Sachin's Double Ton

India levelled with South Africa in test matches and the ODI series went in favour of India. The highlight was Sachin's 200 in 147 balls and he dedicated the record to the people of India. The first ODI was a real thriller. The last ball wicket gave India a one run win!

Dukes Auction Home in Dorchester, found a unique chinese vase in a client's house which was being used to stack up umbrellas and walking sticks. The client had no idea of its value. It was presented to him fifty years ago by a well wisher. The chinese imperial vase dates back to 1740 and was made for Emperor Qianlong. Its value is estimated to be £500,000! Dame Luck certainly favours some people!

The world's shortest man is Khagendra Thapa Magar, who at 18,

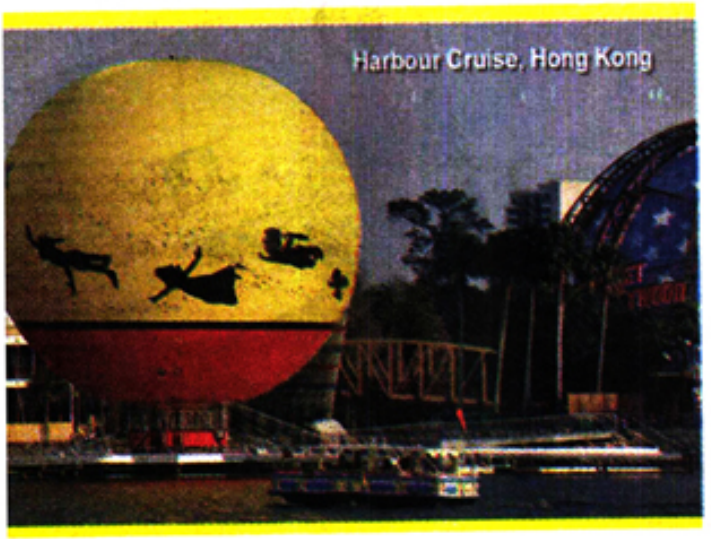
* Khagendra - Short and sweet

is just 56 centimetres tall! He lives in Kathmandu. Magar's family tried to get him into the book of records when he was fourteen but the application was rejected since he was not an adult and had time to grow. Now at 18, he is sure to find a place in the Guinness.

HONG KONG

I was thrilled when my parents announced that we were going to visit Hong Kong. After waiting for what seemed like weeks, the day finally arrived and we boarded the flight. The Hong Kong airport is built by connecting two islands and when the plane landed I felt as if it was landing on the sea.

Our first outing was to Temple Street, filled with small roadside shops displaying a variety of goods at bargain price. We also visited Nathan's Street which is famous for its glittering and imposing skyscrapers. I observed that the roads were wide, neat and clean. The local people were also quite friendly.


Harbour Cruise, Hong Kong

We took the Harbour Cruise where we enjoyed the spectacular light and sound show "Symphony of Lights". There is a Disneyland at Hong Kong which offers a whole lot of shows, rides and firework display.

Another major tourist spot is the Ocean Park which has two wings, the Lowland and Headland. The Lowland showcased the Giant Panda Habitat, Gold Fish Treasures, Sea Lion Show and the Ice Age Exhibition. We proceeded to the Headland by cable car and the ride was exciting and thrilling as we could see the hills and also a number of small islands dotting the sea. We enjoyed the Dolphin Show and the Atoll Reef at Headland.

We also visited Madame Tussaud's wax museum. I learnt a lot during my trip and it was a memorable experience.

- Srividhya Sridhar
Std.V
Harishree Vidyalayam
Chennai

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

The Andaman Islands have slowly emerged as a tourist hotspot, famous for their scenic and breathtaking beauty. One of the major tourist attractions is the Ross Island. Situated to the north of Port Blair, across a narrow stretch of sea, this island covers an area of just 0.6 sq kms. It can be reached by boat from Port Blair.

Covered with thick forests Ross Island has a fascinating history. The island was a very important seat of the British who established a penal settlement here. Indian freedom fighters were imprisoned in the cellular jails built here. The island was captured by the Japanese in 1942, who built bunkers which were used as watch points. It was in their possession for nearly three years and it is rumoured that Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose visited the island during this period and hoisted the tri-coloured flag. After the war the island once again fell into British hands till India's independence in 1947.

The Indian navy has established a post here and allows visitors, who arrive in large numbers, to see the abandoned structures and ruins. The island also abounds in flora and fauna. Ross Islands is a must visit place to learn more about our country's history.

Ross Island - A glimpse into the past

- R.Kirthika, Std.VII,
Vivekananda Kendra Vidyalaya,
Port Blair

BERMUDA

A couple of years ago I visited Bermuda, a small island near North America. My father had his own restaurant in the capital city of Hamilton and we spent our summer holidays with him there.

The island's pink beaches and clear blue ocean waters make it a major tourist attraction, with visitors pouring in from all over the world. Scuba diving and snorkelling are the two major water sports enjoyed by the tourists. Other attractions include the Maritime museum, aquarium, zoo, botanical gardens, lighthouse and the crystal caves.

The blue waters of Bermuda

Our first visit was to the crystal cave. It was very dark inside and I was quite scared. Our guide explained to us the special features of the cave – the impressive stalactites and underground saltwater pools. There was also a bridge inside the cave and I slowly lost my fear and enjoyed walking on it.

Our next stop was at the aquarium, filled with a variety of fish. I liked the balloon fish a lot. Next, we visited the light house and climbed its numerous floors before reaching the top. But the fantastic view was worth the climb. I was spell bound to see the island surrounded by miles and miles of blue ocean.

The island has a number of beaches and the best part is that they are all very neat, clean and well maintained. We played water volleyball in the shallow waters and built sand castles. It was a fun filled and relaxing trip.

- Keerthana.V, Std.VII
SBOA MHSS
Chennai

COORG

Situated in the dense Western Ghats of Karnataka, Coorg is a perfect place for those who wish to laze around in the lap of nature. Madikeri, the main town, is a charming place nestled amidst lush greenery, coffee plantations and mesmerizing valleys. Also called the 'Coffee Cup of India', Coorg is home to some of the world's best coffee. Walking through acres and acres of coffee estates we are engulfed in the divine aroma and transported into a different world. We also learn a lot about coffee growing and how to make a good cup. Coorg is famous for its spices as well. The misty hills are carpeted with orange groves interspersed with pepper and cardamom plantations.

Coorg is also filled with picturesque tourist spots. Abbey waterfalls, a five km drive from Madikeri, is a popular picnic spot. The falls cascade down in steps to flow as a small river and finally merge with the Cauvery. Omkareshwara temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva is another place of interest. We visited the Namdroling monastery at Bylakoppa which is one of the biggest Tibetan settlements in India. It houses three majestic, sixty feet tall, gold plated idols of Lord Buddha, Padmasambhava and Amitayush. The Dubbare elephant camp is another must visit place where visitors get to see a number of elephants at close quarters.

Coffee plantations at Coorg

After a stressful year and the tension filled exam days, Coorg is the place we must head to, to relax and rejuvenate.

- L.Sushmitha, Std.X,
Gitanjali Sr. School, Hyderabad

Of Tricks & Treats!

D-Day

There are certain customs and practices followed by people throughout the world, and celebrating April 1st as Fools' Day is one of them. On this day people play practical tricks and jokes on their friends and relatives. If they get fooled by these tricks they are shouted and jeered at as 'April Fools'.

The practice of playing tricks on 1st of April is believed to have started in France around the year 1564 AD. The monarch Charles IX changed the existing Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar. Previously, according to the Julian calendar, the New Year began on 1s of April. People celebrated this da by greeting and visiting each othe and exchanging gifts. With th adoption of the Gregorian calenda the New Year shifted to 1st of Januar

Most of the countr men followed the king' orders and starte celebrating January 1 a their New Yea However, there wer some who did no like this an refused to accep the change. The continued t observe the 1st o April as the New Yea These peopl became th target o pranksters an men loyal to the King They were sent moc gifts and invited to fake partie Tricks were played on them and the were called fools. The traditio lingered on and the 1st of April is sti being celebrated as All Fools' Day

- K.Kavi Priya, Std.IX
Shrisht MHSS, Vello

/ote for your Poster-10

Dear Children, the winner this time is the inimitable and vable clown, Mr.Bean. Based on the character developed and ɔrtrayed by the British actor Rowan Atkinson, this series gained ımense popularity right from the first episode. Mr.Bean, described a 'child trapped in a man's body', is an innocent, foolish and ıdearingly selfish person, whose very face and expression evokes ughter in us. The episodes are a comic uptake on the hero trying solve simple everyday tasks in the most complicated way possible. he show, broadcast throughout the world, has been enjoyed by millions of viewers ɔung and old alike. It has also won a number of international awards. Way to go Mr.Bean!

The winners are: **1) Manu.N, Std.IV, Meridian School, Hyderabad 2) V.Kabbilaash umar, Std.VII, KV-Janakpuri, New Delhi 3) Varsha.V, Std.VI, Vagdevi Vilas, engalooru 4) Rohan Nair, Std.III, Bright Day School, Baroda 5)A.Thaslima Parveen, d.IV, Milton Nursery School, Chennai**

Now vote for your July issue poster!

Five entries that detail the best reasons will get a reward of Rs 50/- each.

- *Last date for receipt of entries:* ***25.4.2010.*** • *Editor's decision is final.*

y vote goes to – Irfan Pathan ☐ Andy Murray ☐ Abhinav Bindra ☐ Spiderman ☐

Because.....

.....

Name : .....

Age : ..... Class : .....

School : .....

*Residential Address : .....

.....Pin .....

Signature : .....

Local address is a must for overseas entries.

The Editor, Gokulam, Kalki Buildings,

7-NP, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 032.

Match

Hill stations are the most preferred holiday destinations in India, their cool climate a welcome respite from the sweltering heat of the plains. Match the following hill stations to the states they belong :

HILL-STATION	STATE
1) HORSLEY HILL	A) HIMACHAL PRADESH
2) MADIKERI	B) MADHYA PRADESH
3) PONMUDI	C) WEST BENGAL
4) YERCAUD	D) SIKKIM
5) PANCHMARHI	E) ANDHRA PRADESH
6) MAHABALESHWAR	F) KERALA
7) KASAULI	G) KARNATAKA
8) GULMARG	H) TAMIL NADU
9) GANGTOK	I) MAHARASTRA
10) DARJEELING	J) JAMMU & KASHMIR

- Srikanth.M.V, Std.X, Vijaya High School, Bengalooru

Answers : 1-E, 2-G, 3-F, 4-H, 5-B, 6-I, 7-A, 8-J, 9-D, 10-C.

Grandmaworm

Dear Grandma,

I don't like maths and I am fraid of it. However, I know it is n important subject. Please let me now how I can overcome my fear f maths.

- Krishna Mehta, Ahmedabad

Dear Krishna,

This is a question addressed to me ery often, which proves that you are ot the only person having such a ear. So be brave! Your fear or hatred f maths arises out of the fact that ou have not understood the logical eps involved in solving athematical problems. Listen to our teacher attentively in class as e or she works on a problem on the ack board while explaining the eps involved. If you are still nfused, approach your teacher some other knowledgeable erson who is in a position to tiently explain the logical steps solving the problem. You will then ve to repeatedly work on similar oblems in your rough note book, til you are confident. Once you derstand the steps involved, your ar and hatred will vanish and u will find maths magically eresting!

My father has a transferable job and I have shifted from Mangalore to Bengalooru and then to Chennai. Here I have a language problem and I don't have friends in school. I feel horrible! How am I to adjust to my new surroundings?

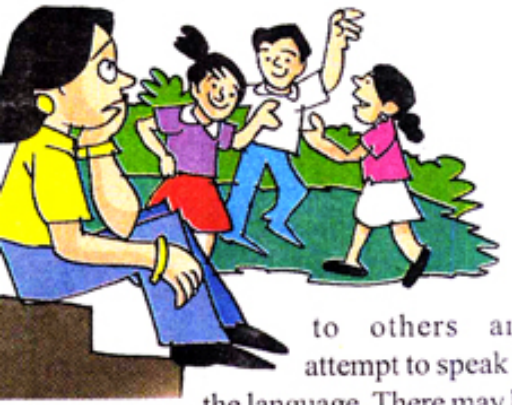
- Prashasthi Bhat

Mountain out of a Mole Hill!

Dear Prashasthi,

I find from your letter that you have joined Kendriya Vidyalaya in Chennai. Kendriya Vidyalayas are intended to help children whose parents have transferable jobs, by adopting a common syllabus. Therefore you must be able to

converse with your schoolmates in a common language, most likely, English. Outside your school, there are so many boys and girls in Chennai going to English medium schools and you are sure to meet a few of them pretty soon. However, it would also be sensible to learn to speak the local language, Tamil. It will come to you easily if you listen



to others and attempt to speak in the language. There may be a slip up now and then but very soon you will become familiar with the language and feel at home. Friendship doesn't blossom on its own; it has to be cultivated. Reachout and you will be rewarded.

***I** try to understand the subjects and I don't mug up. I get fairly good marks. But my mother asks me to mug up... what should I do? Please advise.*

- Hara Prasad, Bahrain

Dear Hara,

Your mother is probably afraid that you may not get a high rank i you don't mug up. As a matter c fact, if you can understard the subjec and answer questions in your ow language, you must score mor marks than others who just writ what they have memorised. The be: way to deal with the problem is t approach your teacher and find ou what the rules of the game are in you school. If, as a rule, the schoo teachers want mugged up answer oblige them, so that you are safel scoring high marks. Howeve continue your efforts to understan the subject. Also, don't forget th: some portions of your syllabus d require that you by-heart them.

***T**here is a girl in my class wh makes a big issue of even a ve small problem. We suffer a l because of her behaviour. Plea: suggest a way out.*

- R.Snekha, Tricl

Dear Snekha,

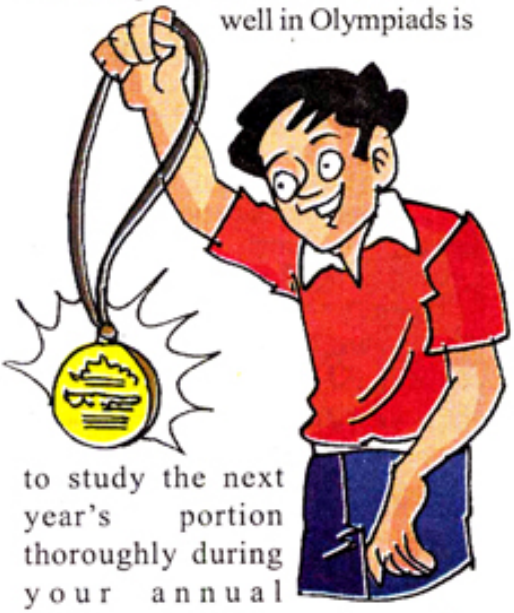
Some people are unreasonab fussy and disagree with everythi said or done. Such

ersons are best ignored. But I hope ıe girl you have in mind is not like ıat. What may appear to be a small ıatter for you, may really be a big roblem for your friend. So, you ıust also try to understand her view oint. If you are not in agreement ith her, don't argue. Just say, "we ill agree to disagree" and carry on ith other more important matters. n the other hand if you do see some ense in what she is saying, have the ourage to accept her view and shake ands. Once she knows that you are eing fair, she will stop making a big sue of trivial matters.

What is Olympiad? Give me me suggestions to score more in lympiads.

- N.Subramanian, Bengalooru

The Olympiad exam was tablished by leading mathematicians and scientists with the aim of promoting science, maths and computer science. This exam is conducted at the national and international level and students are awarded performance based rankings. The examination report highlights the areas of strength and weaknesses of the participants as well as their schools. Through this exam exceptionally talented students are identified and nurtured to become future scientists and technologists. The best way to score well in Olympiads is



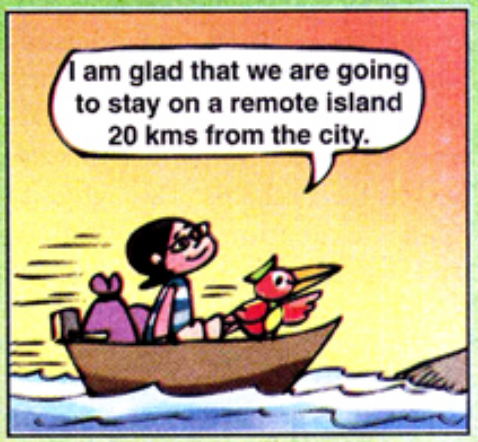
to study the next year's portion thoroughly during your annual vacations. In addition to the regular syllabus, your logical and analytical abilites are also tested. Quite a tough task and only the best among the best manage to succeed in this.

Love,

Grandmaworm

BILLU

Concept, Pictures : PILLAI



S.Aishwarya Shre,
Std. II, Bishop Cotton Girls School,
Bengalooru.

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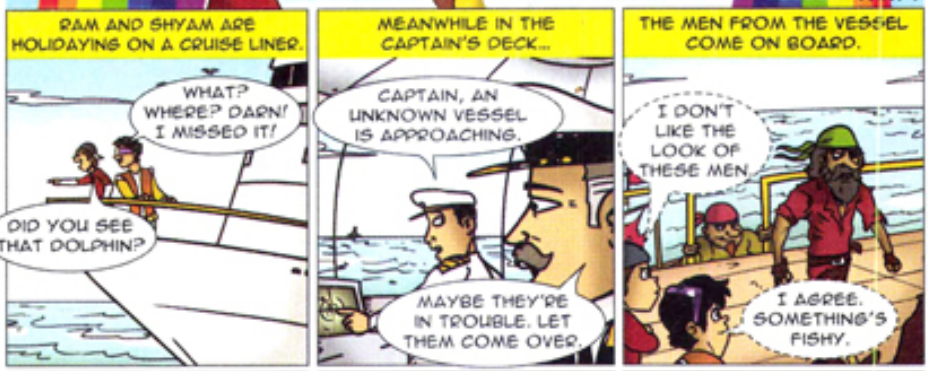

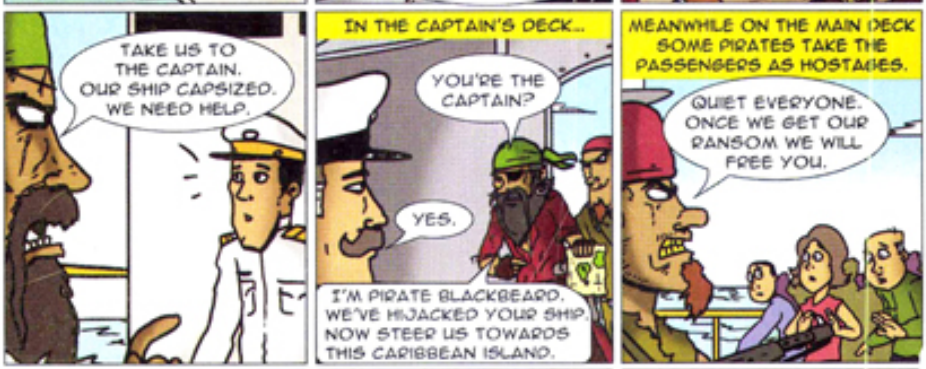

WILL THE BOYS SUCCEED IN SAVING EVERYONE FROM THE PIRATES? FIND OUT IN THE NEXT ISSUE.